



25 November 2024

Tēnā koe Cooper O'Neil,

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 6 September 2024, requesting information about Student Job Search (SJS) for the last 5 years.

I apologise for the delay in responding to your request. I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), set out below.

1. *All invoices relating to SJS.*

The attached **Appendix two** provides information on the SJS invoices from 1 July 2019 to 1 September 2024. Each Tab is broken down by financial year.

2. *All memos/emails/decision letters regarding funding.*

This part of your request is very broad. Key documents have been identified in **Appendix one**. I have provided you with the titles and a summary of each document (section 16(1)(e) of the Act refers).

Please let us know if you wish to make a further request for a full copy of any of these documents.

The Ministry will be required to consult with Student Job Search before deciding whether to make a document fully available to you. Some information within these documents may be withheld in accordance with the relevant sections of the Act such as:

- section 9(2)(a) - where withholding is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons.
- Section 9(2)(b)(ii) - if information is released, it would likely to unreasonably prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.
- Section 9(2)(g)(i) - to protect the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions.

3. *A list of individual grants paid to SJS*

SJS does not receive funding through grants, instead they operate under a contractual agreement where payments are made in instalments based on predetermined milestones or upon the completion of the required service being

delivered, therefore your request for this information is refused under section 18(e) of the Act as this information does not exist.

4. *Any projects that SJS obtained specific funding for, e.g website redesign and their requested amounts.*

Specific funding for projects such as 'website redesign' has not been allocated to SJS. As stated above, all payments made to SJS are based on the predetermined milestones or upon the successful delivery of the required service, therefore your request for this information is refused under section 18(e) of the Act as this information does not exist.

I will be publishing this decision letter, with your personal details deleted, on the Ministry's website in due course.

If I have misunderstood any part of your request, or you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with my decision on your request, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi



Magnus O'Neill
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services

Appendix One

Date	Title	Summary
21 June 2019	Contract with Student Job Search for Employment Placement Services	Covering memo and contract with SJS for employment placement services.
17 March 2020	Proposed future Investment in Student Job Search	This memo provides background, performance analysis and future investment recommendations for Student Job Search. It also seeks endorsement to commence contract negotiations with SJS to extend the existing contract period for 1 year (1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021).
14 September 2020	Contract Variation with Student Job Search for Employment Services.	This memo seeks approval for this Student Job Search Variation covering 1 January 2021 to 30 June 2021.
19 July 2021	Approve Exemption from Open tender for – Partnership and Funding Agreement Between the Ministry of Social Development and Student Job Search Aotearoa Incorporated contract 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2023.	This memo was requesting approval for an exemption from the open tendering requirement of the Government Procurement Rules so the Ministry can directly source employment assistance services for Tertiary Students from SJS Aotearoa Incorporated.
20 July 2021	Seeking approval to Enter a New Contract with Student Job Search Aotearoa incorporated.	This memo was seeking approval for the contract between MSD and SJS Aotearoa Incorporated.
28 September 2022	Approve Exemption from Open tender for – Contract Agreement between the Ministry of Social Development and Student Job Search Aotearoa Incorporated for the Student Job Search Permanent Placement Initiative contract 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023	This memo was seeking approval for an exemption from the open tendering requirement of the Government Procurement Rules so MSD can directly source permanent employment assistance services for Tertiary Students from SJS Aotearoa Incorporated and notes the intention to extend current SJS placements with the Ministry by a further 12 Months (up to 30 June 2024) to allow the Ministry to undertake a full review of the SJS contract.
22 August 2023	Procurement Board Noting Memo	This memo was noting the extension of permanent employment assistance services contract for Tertiary Students from SJS Aotearoa Incorporated in F24.
29 August 2023	Outcome Agreement with Student Job Search (SJS) to deliver the SJS Permanent Placement initiative in F24.	This memo was providing advice to the DCE of Service and Contracts Managements decision to extend a one-year contract with SJS to deliver the permanent Placement Initiative in F24, it also sought approval to notify the Procurement Board of this decision.
31 May 2024	SJS PPI Non-renewal of Agreement Notifications	Letter to the CEO of SJS advising of the outcome for the permanent Placement Initiative that ends on 30 June 2024
25 June 2024	Email: Approval to pay for PPI extension	Email seeking approval for payment from DCE.
5 July 2024	Email: Student Job Search Aotearoa Incorporated – NATO – 24-00159-1	Email providing signed version of the SJS contract to the Director of the Employment team.