

J Floyd
https://fyi.org.nz/change_request/new?body=nzte

20 December 2024

Dear J Floyd,

OIA 24-25-32: Contracting back of Investment staff

Thank you for your email of 18 September to New Zealand Trade and Enterprise (NZTE), making a request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). On 18 November we extended the timeframe for your response by five weeks to 23 December. You requested the following information:

Please provide details, including dates, mandates and amounts, of any contracts with either individuals, or entities owned or controlled by those individuals, who have left the employment of the NZTE Investment team (or reduced their hours) since 1 January 2024.

Please also provide details of any tender or contracting process for the appointment and engagement of those individuals or entities.

To avoid the direct identification of individuals, please redact their names and or entities if necessary.

Answers to your questions are as follows.

1. Between 1 January and 18 September 2024 one individual who was previously employed full time at NZTE now has a contract for services. The contract is from 12/09/2024 - 20/06/2025 for up to 20 hours per week. The individual provides ongoing advice and support for the delivery of one of NZTE's core programmes about which they have specialist knowledge. The total contract value is withheld under s(9)(2)(b)(ii) commercial sensitivity, as this would disclose information which could be used to further others' business interests.
2. The appointment was a direct appointment and no tender process undertaken. This approach was taken because the role was required to respond to immediate key technical issues relating to one of NZTE's core programmes. NZTE did not have this expertise in house, and this individual held specific knowledge and expertise required to undertake this role. The contract is short-term in nature and has a responsibility to assist NZTE build in-house knowledge and capability to undertake the role after it the contract ends.

You have the right under section 28(3) of the Act to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at: www.ombudsman.parliament.govt.nz or freephone: 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melissa Trochon', written in a cursive style.

Melissa Trochon
Director – Board & Ministerial