



03 December 2024

Maria Lucento

Email: fyi-request-29070-8b98af1b@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: DOIA-REQ-0006072-Maria Lucento

Tēnā koe Maria Lucento

Thank you for your request via the FYI website of 5/11/2024 to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

Under the Official Information Act, I request any documents (including but not limited to: press releases, reports, emails, and digital presentations) having to do with infrastructure built with funding provided by MBIE to Genomics Aotearoa that meets either the Infrastructure Commission's or the Treasury's description of infrastructure above.

As context, your request notes that Genomics Aotearoa was funded as a Strategic Science Investment Fund Infrastructure platform. You also reference the following definitions of infrastructure from the New Zealand Treasury and the New Zealand Infrastructure Commission

- The New Zealand Treasury: "Infrastructure refers to the fixed, long-lived structures that facilitate the production of goods and services, including transport, water, energy, social assets, and digital infrastructure such as our broadband and mobile networks."
- The New Zealand Infrastructure Commission Te Waihanga: "Infrastructure: Fixed, long-lived structures that facilitate economic performance and wellbeing. Infrastructure includes 'horizontal' physical networks (principally transport, water and energy and telecommunications); and 'vertical' infrastructure (buildings such as hospitals, schools and prisons). The latter are also known as social assets."

The Strategic Science Investment Fund Investment Plan 2017-2024 ([Strategic Science Investment Fund: Investment Plan 2017 - 2024](#)), which outlines Government's intentions for the SSIF Fund, and Government's expectations for current and future investments until 2024, defines SSIF Infrastructure (page 6) as:

- "Funding for national research infrastructure platforms that provide access to research technology, facilities, infrastructure, Nationally Significant Collections and Databases, and associated support services."



While SSIF Infrastructure funding could be used for infrastructure as defined by the Treasury and The New Zealand Infrastructure Commission Te Waihanga, it can also be used for other purposes with the SSIF Infrastructure definition above.

Genomics Aotearoa was funded to ensure that New Zealand is internationally participating in and leading the rapidly developing fields of genomics and bioinformatics. It does not fund infrastructure as defined by the Treasury and The New Zealand Infrastructure Commission Te Waihanga. Genomics Aotearoa accesses computing infrastructure through a partnership with the National e-Science Infrastructure platform, which is funded through SSIF Infrastructure: see <https://www.nesi.org.nz/>.

Examples of the types of research activities undertaken through the Genomics Aotearoa platform are available at the website <https://www.genomics-aotearoa.org.nz/>.

For a recent stocktake of science infrastructure in New Zealand, see <https://www.kitmap.govt.nz/>.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, or if you require any further assistance, please contact OIA@mbie.govt.nz.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T. C. Drage'.

Trevor Drage
Manager Strategic Investments
Science System Investment and Performance