



23 January 2025

Ref: DOIA-REQ-0007813

Lee Burton  
Email: fyi-request-29597-8ebc8f23@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Lee

Thank you for your email of 18 December 2024 to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

*I understand that within the last 12 months, several of your business units have changed names or are in the process of changing names. Under the OIA I request all information relating to:*

- *Costs associated with external communications or PR agencies engaged to assist with changing names of business units;*
- *Correspondence relating to the decision on changing business unit names; and*
- *An analysis of staff time spent on such matters.*

We are interpreting your request to be about the *MBIE Foundations for the Future* organisational change that was announced by the Secretary and Chief Executive of MBIE in October 2024, then implemented in December 2024. These were:

- The creation of a combined **Corporate and Digital Shared Services** group which brought together functions from business groups previously known as **Corporate Services, Finance and Enablement**, and **Digital, Data and Insights**.
- Establishment of a **Strategy and Assurance** group which brought together functions responsible for strategic risk, assurance and performance into the group previously known as **Te Waka Pūtahitanga**.
- Establishment of a **Regional Development and Commercial Services** group which brought together system leadership functions for Government Procurement and Property into the group previously known as **Kānoa – Regional Development and Investment Unit**.

The work to implement these name changes was managed internally. MBIE did not engage any external communications or public relations agencies, therefore we are refusing the question of cost pursuant to section 18(e) of the Act, as the information requested does not exist.

Correspondence regarding the change of business group names was incorporated into the formal consultation document *MBIE Foundations for the Future*, which covers the establishment of the three groups as well as other functional realignments. Feedback received through the consultation process was considered and used to inform final decisions. Both the proposal for change and final decisions documents related to *MBIE Foundations for the Future* will shortly be made available via proactive release on MBIE's website. Therefore, this part of your request is refused pursuant to section 18(d) of the Act.

MBIE is committed to remaining transparent throughout the change processes it is undertaking and has been proactively releasing the associated documentation which can be found at the following link: [www.mbie.govt.nz/about/open-government-and-official-information/release-of-information/mbie-departmental-change-processes](http://www.mbie.govt.nz/about/open-government-and-official-information/release-of-information/mbie-departmental-change-processes).

There was no analysis of staff time spent on such matters, so we are refusing this question pursuant to section 18(e) of the Act as the information requested does not exist.

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](mailto: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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JN', written in a cursive style.

Jennifer Nathan  
**Chief People Officer**  
**People and Culture**  
**Corporate and Digital Shared Services**