

30 March 2026

T Hayden
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Our ref: OIA130559
OIA130592

Tēnā koe T Hayden

Official Information Act request: Public Relations and Communications roles

Thank you for your emails of 1 and 3 March 2026 to the Ministry of Justice (the Ministry), requesting information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), regarding data on Ministry staff and contractors in public relations and communications roles. Specifically, you requested:

I would like to request the number of staff in public relations or communications roles at the Ministry of Justice for 2025, 2024, 2023, 2022, and 2021.

On 3 March 2026, you made a further request for information, which includes and expands the scope of your 1 March 2026 request. Therefore, I am only providing a response to the request made 3 March 2026, as this captures your original request:

I would like to request the number of staff in public relations or communications roles at the Ministry of Justice for 2026, 2025, 2024, 2023, 2022, and 2021

I would also like to request the number of contractors in public relations or communications roles at the Ministry of Justice for 2026, 2025, 2024, 2023, 2022, and 2021.

In response to your request for the number of staff and contractors in public relations or communications roles for the years 2021- 2024, please refer to the following links from Parliament's website:

- For all information on staff roles as at 30 June 2020 - 30 June 2024, please refer to Question 52 of the 2023/24 Annual Review here: [b06bf5b7131db3d5651f8b10277cad4d992e2987](https://www.parliament.nz/b06bf5b7131db3d5651f8b10277cad4d992e2987)
- For all information on contractors from FY 20/21 to FY 23/24 please refer to question 72 (Appendix 23) of the 2023/24 Annual Review here: [bc5cb53d4552fd054f25b29561877a4c98579de8](https://www.parliament.nz/bc5cb53d4552fd054f25b29561877a4c98579de8)

Therefore, I am refusing this part of your request under section 18(d) of the Act as the information you have requested is publicly available.

Please refer to **Table 1** below for the number of staff in public relations or communications roles in 2025 and 2026. Please note that this represents the number of employees at a point in time and includes permanent and fixed-term employees using the Public Service Commission (PSC) methodology. This also includes staff employed by the Ministry to support Te Tari Whakatau. Figures exclude staff on parental leave or leave without pay, and those seconded in from another agency.

Table 1: Staff employed by the Ministry for public relations or communications roles

As at 30 June 2025	As at 31 December 2025	As at 3 March 2026
15	16	17

The Ministry engages contractors to build capability and to provide specialist expertise or capacity that is not normally available within the Ministry. Please refer to **Table 2** for the number of contractors in public relations or communications roles in 2025 and 2026. Please note that this represents the total number of contractor engagements active at any point in this period, not the number of contractors active at any one time and includes roles with communications or public relations components such as change management.

Most of these engagements were for less than 12 months to undertake short-term, project-based activity. The Ministry reports its contractor information on a quarterly basis therefore, I have provided information to the most recent completed quarter as at the date of your request.

Table 2: Number of contractors engaged by the Ministry for public relations or communications related roles

FY2024/25 1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025	FY2025/26 YTD 1 July 2025 – 31 December 2025
15	6

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website at: [Official Information Act responses | New Zealand Ministry of Justice](#).

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman under section 28 of the Act. The Office of the Ombudsman may be contacted by phone on: 0800 802 602, by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz, or via the webform: [Make a complaint \(for members of the public\) | Ombudsman New Zealand](#).

Nāku noa, nā



Kelvin Watson
Deputy Secretary, Corporate Services