

17 April 2026

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T Hayden

OIA 30767

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Tēnā koe T Hayden

Thank you for your email of 2 March 2026 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

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

On 4 March 2026, you contacted the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (the Ministry) to rescope your request to be for:

1. *I would like to request the number of staff in public relations or communications roles at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade for:*
  - a. 2026
  - b. 2025
  - c. 2024
  - d. 2023
  - e. 2022, and
  - f. 2021.
2. *I would also like to request the number of contractors in public relations or communications roles at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade for:*
  - a. 2026
  - b. 2025
  - c. 2024
  - d. 2023
  - e. 2022, and
  - f. 2021.

Your request has been numbered for administrative convenience.

On 1 April 2026, the timeframes for responding to your request were extended by an additional 10 working days because responding to your request necessitated the review of a large quantity of information (section 15A(1)(a) of the OIA refers).

### **Response to your request**

To support the response to your request, the Ministry has interpreted the scope to be for the number of full time equivalent (FTE) staff employed in public relations or

communications roles for the financial years between 2020/2021 and 2024/2025, and through to 4 March 2026 for the 2025/2026 financial year.

The following table responses to parts 1a and 1b of your request:

FTE Employees in public relations or communications roles by Financial Year	
Financial Year	FTE Employees in public relations or communications roles
2025/2026	14.2
2024/2025	14.92

Parts 1c to 1f of your request are refused under section 18(d) of the OIA, as the information is publicly available on the New Zealand Parliament website, specifically page 37 of this document: [https://www3.parliament.nz/resource/en-NZ/54SCFADT\\_EVI\\_b6328bb6-20a3-4752-6501-08dcfd0f043f\\_FADT1009/0430abfe26644853e9c0767a00521183293685d3](https://www3.parliament.nz/resource/en-NZ/54SCFADT_EVI_b6328bb6-20a3-4752-6501-08dcfd0f043f_FADT1009/0430abfe26644853e9c0767a00521183293685d3).

In response to parts 2a and 2b of your request, there have been no contractors employed by the Ministry in public relations or communications roles for the 2024/2025 financial year, or for the 2025/2026 financial year through to 4 March 2026.

Parts 2c to 2f of your request are refused under section 18(d) of the OIA, as the information is publicly available on the New Zealand Parliament website, specifically page 50 of this document: [https://www3.parliament.nz/resource/en-NZ/54SCFADT\\_EVI\\_b6328bb6-20a3-4752-6501-08dcfd0f043f\\_FADT1010/ca258cf403445c4f0e88a86587a0a1491f2b543e](https://www3.parliament.nz/resource/en-NZ/54SCFADT_EVI_b6328bb6-20a3-4752-6501-08dcfd0f043f_FADT1010/ca258cf403445c4f0e88a86587a0a1491f2b543e).

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Therefore, our response to your request (with your personal information removed) may be published on the Ministry website: [www.mfat.govt.nz/en/about-us/contact-us/official-information-act-responses/](http://www.mfat.govt.nz/en/about-us/contact-us/official-information-act-responses/)

If you have any questions about this decision, you can contact us by email at: [DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz](mailto:DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz). You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision by contacting [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



Sarah Corbett  
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade