

1 May 2026

Miss M Quicken
fyi-request-34318-78a42343@requests.fyi.org.nz

Our ref: OIA 131506

Tēnā koe Miss Quicken

Official Information Act request: Official Information Act research – Contractor engagement

Thank you for your email of 31 March 2026 to the Ministry of Justice (the Ministry), requesting information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), regarding announced research on the Act. Specifically, you requested:

Please provide the contract and documented procurement criteria on how TBL was chosen as external supplier to review the Official Information Act ("OIA") research.

Was there a tender or was this ministerial decision ?

Also please provide the requirements that have been given to TBL to provide [sic] > to carry out research "on the cost drivers associated with responding to OIA requests".

Please also provide documentation about public engagement on how the ministry is planning to run a survey from OIA users & democracy perspective ?

In response to your request for documents relating to the relevant engagement for work by an external supplier, I refer you to the document pack attached. Table 1, appended to this letter, contains the list of documents and my decision on their release.

Some information has been withheld under the following provisions of the Act:

- section 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons.

In withholding information under section 9 of the Act, I have considered the public interest and do not consider that it outweighs withholding the information at this time.

In response to your request for information related to the requirements provided to Tregaskis Brown Ltd (TBL) for research on the cost drivers of responding to requests under the Act, please refer to the relevant contract (Document 2).

Regarding how the Ministry engaged TBL as the provider for this work, because they are a supplier to the 'All of Government (AOG) Consultancy Services Panel', the Ministry was able to directly select them to provide the services required. This is an appropriate reason for such procurement and is compliant with government procurement rules.

I am refusing the last part of your request under section 18(d) of the Act as the relevant document (Document 3) is soon to be publicly available. I note the Ministry is not currently undertaking public engagement, but TBL is completing a targeted survey of some public service agencies as part of its research. When published, Document 3 will be available here [Official Information Act responses | New Zealand Ministry of Justice](#) and [Transparency and scrutiny of executive action | New Zealand Ministry of Justice](#).

Please note 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



Kathy Brightwell
General Manager, Civil and Constitutional Policy

Table 1

Doc #	Date	Title	Decision on release
1	14 January 2026	Self Service Procurement Plan - Costing the Official Information Act 1982 {Detailed Research}	Some information withheld under sections 9(2)(a).
2	21 January 2026	Final CSO – Costing the Official Information Act 1982 {Detailed Research}	Some information withheld under sections 9(2)(a).
3	13 March 2026	TBL Survey Questions	Refused under section 18(d) as the information will soon be publicly available. Official Information Act responses New Zealand Ministry of Justice and Transparency and scrutiny of executive action New Zealand Ministry of Justice