



3 June 2026

Tēnā koe James

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 13 April 2026, to the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry), requesting the following information:

- *In 2023 MSD signed eight contracts with the Manukau Urban Māori Authority. At that time, Willie Jackson was the Associate Minister of Social Development, and his wife was the CEO of MUMA.*
- *Please provide all communications including but not limited to emails, texts and meeting notes on the identification of these conflicts of interest, the perception of possible conflicts and how that was managed for each contract awarded.*

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Please find my decision on your request below.

The Ministry has funded Manukau Urban Māori Authority (MUMA) to provide a range of different social services in Auckland over a number of years. This funding relationship existed prior to Hon Willie Jackson's appointment as Associate Minister for Social Development and Employment (Māori Employment portfolio) in 2023.

The contracts awarded to MUMA in 2023 related to food security, the community connection service, emergency responses, emergency housing, family violence and sexual violence prevention, training and employment services for youth at risk, housing and driver licence support. A number of these involved the renegotiation of contracts where previous funding agreements had expired.

Of these eight contracts, only one contract fell within the delegation of Hon Willie Jackson in his capacity as Associate Minister at that time.

Notwithstanding this, the procurement of that service, and all other services above, followed the Ministry's standard processes, which are undertaken independently of Ministers. These decisions are operational matters for the Ministry.

In our previous response to you of 26 February 2026, we included links to Outcome Agreement Framework Terms and Conditions. These terms and conditions include a requirement for Providers to advise us of any actual, potential or perceived Conflicts of Interest in connection with the provision of services specified in the Outcome Agreement.

In relation to the one contract that fell within the Associate Minister's delegation at the time, we were not advised of any actual, potential or perceived Conflicts of Interest. As such, I am refusing your request for this information under section 18(e) of the Act, on the basis that the information requested does not exist.

Our previous OIA response to you also included our internal guidelines for how our staff must manage Conflicts of Interest along with our Conflict of Interest guidance. Ministry staff involved in assessing all applications for funding or awarding of contracts must follow the Ministry's Conflict of Interest procedures.

I will be publishing this decision letter, with your personal details deleted, on the Ministry's website in due course.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with my decision on your request, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui

pp. 

Anna Graham
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services