



DOIA 1617-0628

8 February 2017

Perry Richardson  
[fyi-request-4982-5b676dab@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-4982-5b676dab@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Perry

Thank you for your email dated 17 November 2016 to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (the Ministry) requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*I spotted a significant amount of government employees attending the Singularity U event on 14-16 November in Christchurch.*

*Please provide the number of employees from*

- 1) Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment*
- 2) New Zealand Trade and Enterprise, and*
- 3) Callaghan Innovation Fund and money spent (both tickets and travel).*

The table below sets out each respective agencies attendance at SingularityU, and the total costs for conference fees and air travel to and from Christchurch (excluding GST):

Agency	Number of Attendees	Total Conference Costs	Total Flight Travel Costs
Callaghan Innovation	19	\$19,467.50	\$4,354.96
The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment	7	\$9,024.87	\$1,402.10
New Zealand Trade and Enterprise	2	\$3,494.00	\$690.36
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>\$31,986.37</b>	<b>\$6,447.42</b>

Callaghan Innovation has advised that, as part of their sponsorship package, they received five fully-discounted complimentary tickets and 11 half-price tickets. Callaghan Innovation also purchased a youth ticket at a discounted cost of \$245 plus GST for one staff member. Similarly, the Ministry purchased four youth tickets at a discounted cost of \$252.63 plus GST per ticket.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of our response to your request. Advice on how to make a complaint is available at: [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone: 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SM', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Stewart McRobie  
CFO Finance and Performance