



19 June 2018

K I Davis  
Via email: [fyi-request-7896-38a037ea@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-7896-38a037ea@requests.fyi.org.nz)

45 Pipitea St  
PO Box 805  
Wellington 6140  
Email: [OIA@dia.govt.nz](mailto:OIA@dia.govt.nz)  
Phone +64 4 495 7200  
Fax +64 4 495 7222  
Website [dia.govt.nz](http://dia.govt.nz)

Dear K Davis

**Official Information Act (the Act) request OIA1718-0444**

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (Act) request which was received by the Department of Internal Affairs (Department) on 22 May 2018.

We note that you have previously requested information from the Department of Internal Affairs on this topic, on 10 January 2017 and 18 February 2017. Information that has been released to you in previous requests has been excluded from the Department's response to your latest request.

You requested the following information:

1. *Confirm the ownership of the former TVNZ Archive facility at Avalon – is it owned by the Crown or Nga Taonga?*
2. *Please supply a list of all rent or occupancy payments received from Nga Taonga in relation to its occupancy of the facility since July 2014*
3. *If the archive does not pay any rent can you please supply all official information that relates to the decision not to charge a rental.*
4. *Please supply all official information relating to consents sought by Nga Taonga to alter, add to or repair the facility, and responses given by the Ministry.*
5. *Please supply all official information about privately owned [audiovisual] material making use of DIA fixtures and fittings. This might include briefings, meeting notes, correspondence etc.*

In response to the first part of your request, the former TVNZ facility located in Avalon, Lower Hutt is owned by the Crown.

In regard to the second and third parts of your request, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is in place between the Department and the Ministry of Culture and Heritage(MCH), which sets out how expenses associated with the facility will be covered. The use of the facility by Ngā Taonga is covered within the terms of this MOU as a contractor of the MCH. Therefore no rent or occupancy payments have been levied upon Ngā Taonga. A copy of the MOU is included in Attachment, listed as [1].

In response to the fourth part of your request, one consent application was identified in relation to alterations, additions or repairs to the Avalon facility. This sought permission to install fibre internet capability, and was approved. I include in Attachment, listed as [2] correspondence in relation to this application.

In addition to this in Attachment, listed as [3], I have included an excerpt from a Preserving the Nations Memory Project memo dated 31 July 2017 that has an action point requiring Ngā Taonga to make a formal request to DIA if they wish to proceed with the construction of a second repository.

In regard to the fifth part of your request, I have supplied an excerpt from the meeting minutes of the Avalon/Auckland Archives Project Steering Committee meeting on 31 May 2018 noting an action point for a new lease between Property and MCH/Ngā Taonga. This is Attachment [4]. An email conversation was identified in relation to privately owned material. This email conversation outlines an intention to exchange a letter with Ngā Taonga (including MCH) under the current MOU to acknowledge their extended use of the building, with no change to the current funding. This item is listed in Attachment as [5].

In regard to the correspondence provided in this response, please note that names and contact information of non Departmental employees and individuals, and mobile phone numbers of Departmental employees have been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act in order to protect the privacy of natural persons.

Archives New Zealand were consulted during the compilation of this response and have confirmed that they do not hold any information in their capacity as Archivists of public records.

If you have any feedback or questions in relation to this response, please let us know at [OIA@dia.govt.nz](mailto:OIA@dia.govt.nz).

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or Freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



**Harley Spence**  
General Manager Property  
Shared Services Branch