ORANGA TAMARIKI
Ministry for Children

OT-OIA-2026-0259

11 September 2026

s9(2)(a) [redacted]

Tēnā koe s9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email, received on 20 August 2026, to Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children (Oranga Tamariki) requesting information on expenditure associated with the departure of the previous Chief Executive and the arrival of the new Chief Executive. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

I have responded to each part of your request below.

- *Outgoing Chief Executive – The total amount spent on farewell events, functions or other celebrations associated with their departure.*
- *The cost of any gifts, flowers or other items purchased in connection with their departure.*
- *A breakdown of the main costs, where available.*

Andrew Bridgman was acting Chief Executive from 22 September 2024 to 23 February 2026. There was no expenditure associated with Andrew's departure, therefore this part of your request is refused under section 18(g)(i) of the Act, as the information requested is not held by the department or venture or Minister of the Crown or organisation, and we have no grounds for believing that the information is held by another department.

- *Incoming Chief Executive – Amanda Malu – The total amount spent on welcome events, functions or other celebrations associated with their arrival.*
- *The cost of any gifts, flowers or other items purchased in connection with their arrival.*
- *A breakdown of the main costs, where available.*

Amanda Malu commenced her role as Chief Executive on 23 February 2026. The pōwhiri to welcome her was held at Oranga Tamariki National Office. Attendance was not recorded on the day of the event, however it is estimated that 180 people attended in person which included 56 kaimahi. The event was also live streamed via Microsoft Teams, with a link that was provided to all kaimahi.

The total cost of the pōwhiri was $2,683 (excluding GST). Please find the breakdown of costs in table one below.

Table one: Welcoming expenditure

Expenditure Type	Cost (excl GST)
Pōwhiri – manuhiri (culture advisors/support)	$1,300
Food and Beverages	$1,383
Total	**$2,683**

Oranga Tamariki may make the information contained in this letter available to the public by publishing this on our website with your personal details removed.

I trust you find this information useful. Should you have any concerns with this response, I would encourage you to raise them with Oranga Tamariki. Alternatively, you are advised of your right to also raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. Information about this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by contacting them on 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



Stephanie Short
Chief of Staff