OT-OIA-2026-0271

25 September 2026

s9(2)(a) [redacted]

Tēnā koe [redacted]

Thank you for your email, received on 28 August 2026, to Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children (Oranga Tamariki) requesting information about government spending on Māori capability training and development. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

Oranga Tamariki recognises Māori cultural capability as essential to meeting its statutory obligations and strengthening organisational culture. Given the disproportionate representation of Māori in the children's system, Oranga Tamariki must uphold and actively enforce a high standard of cultural competence.

I have responded to each part of your request below.

1. *Financial year 2021/22 to 2025/26: total spend on Māori language and Māori capability training and development, broken down by financial year.*

2. *For the same period, a list of any external providers engaged for this training, with the cost per provider per year.*

Please find enclosed Appendix A, which contains the information in scope of these parts your request. **Table One** provides the total expenditure on Māori language and Māori capability training and development, broken down for each financial year (FY) from 2021/22 to 2025/26. **Table Two** identifies external providers that received payments for Māori language and Māori capability training and development services delivered during the period FY 2021/22 to FY 2025/26.

Please note, we have not provided cost per provider per year. Providing individual contract values would materially impact Oranga Tamariki ability to negotiate future commercial contracts and could also impact the commercial position of the identified vendors.

As such, this information has been withheld under section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the Act, to protect information where making it available would be likely to unreasonably prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.

3. *The number of FTEs whose role included Māori language plan delivery or Māori capability functions, as at 1 January 2023 and as at the date of response.*

As at 1 January 2023, Oranga Tamariki had 3 full-time equivalent (FTE) employees with a focus on Māori capability and 5 FTE as at 1 August 2026.

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4. *The job title of the current owner of the agency's Māori Language Plan and its Māori capability policy (or confirmation that no such role currently exists).*

5. *A copy of the agency's current Māori Language Plan and any Māori capability policy or strategy document.*

Oranga Tamariki does not hold a Māori Language Plan, nor does it hold a Māori capability policy or strategy document as specified in your request. As such, part 4 and 5 of your request are refused under section 18(e) of the Act, on the grounds that the information does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

6. *Confirmation of whether your agency has made any changes to its own branding since November 2023, and if so, the basis and cost of that change.*

Oranga Tamariki has made no changes to the Ministry branding since November 2023. Therefore, this part of your request is also refused under section 18(e) of the Act.

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



Nicholas Pole
Deputy Chief Executive
People, Culture and Enabling Services

Appendix A

Table One: Total spend on external training and development.

Financial Year	Total Expenditure $(m)
2021/22	$0.896
2022/23	$1.214
2023/24	$2.041
2024/25	$0.454
2025/26	$0.316
Total	**$4.921**

Table Two: Providers engaged for training FY 2021/22 to FY 2025/26.

External Provider
Te Whare Wananga o Awanuiarangi
Te Waata
Kupu Consultancy Limited
Mahu Armstrong
Elementary Consulting Limited
Kia Maia