



21 January 2025

OIAD-1421

9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 12 December 2024 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Can you please tell me:

- How many staff were at employed by MfE in full time, part time or consultancy roles prior to the recent redundancies / end of October?
- How many staff were made redundant in the recent redundancy round, broken down to are redundant now or will be redundant in the next months?
- How many staff are now employed by MfE in full time, part time or consultancy roles?
- How many staff have been employed, either full time or consultancy since 1 November?

The Ministry for the Environment is responding to each part of your request below. Please note that for the purposes of this request, we use the Public Service Commission definition for part-time as less than 0.75 of a full time equivalent. (This includes permanent and fixed term employees and those on leave without pay, parental leave, or seconded out of the Ministry. It excludes contractors and those seconded in).

Please note that the Ministry does not employ staff as consultants and does not keep records on how many staff are used by consultancies to deliver their services to the Ministry. However, the Ministry does regularly publish information on consultancy spend. You can find that information on the Public Service website at www.publicservice.govt.nz/research-and-data/workforce-data-public-sector-composition/workforce-data-workforce-size.

1. *How many staff were at employed by MfE in full time, part time or consultancy roles prior to the recent redundancies / end of October?*
 - a. The Ministry's new structure came into effect on 1 November 2024. While most positions in the new structure had been filled through the Ministry's change process, there were several vacancies still being recruited for when the new structure came into effect.
 - b. As at 31 October 2024, the Ministry had 789 full-time and 25-part-time employees.
2. *How many staff were made redundant in the recent redundancy round, broken down to are redundant now or will be redundant in the next months?*
 - a. 156 staff took voluntary redundancy between the dates of 1 April and 20 December 2024.
 - b. 13 staff were made redundant on 31 October 2024.
 - c. 85 staff are currently working in fixed term positions and will be entitled to redundancy if they are not able to be reassigned or have not resigned, before the end of their fixed-term position.
3. *How many staff are now employed by MfE in full time, part time or consultancy roles?*

- a. As at 18 December 2024, the Ministry has 823 full-time and 23 part-time employees.
4. *How many staff have been employed, either full time or consultancy since 1 November?*
- a. Between 1 November and 18 December 2024, 41 new employees have started with the Ministry. Of these, 16 were hired as permanent staff, and 25 were hired as fixed-term. Note that nine employees left during this period. The resulting difference in the number of employees from 31 October to 18 December 2024 is 32. This includes full and part-time employees. (This includes permanent and fixed term employees and those seconded out of the Ministry. It excludes contractors, those seconded in, and those on leave without pay and parental leave).

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman of my decision, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on their website at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Please note that due to the public interest in our work the Ministry for the Environment publishes responses to requests for official information on our [OIA responses page](#) shortly after the response has been sent. If you have any queries about this, please feel free to contact our Ministerial Services team: ministerials@mfe.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā

Electronically approved by Tracey Kaio

Tracey Kaio

General Manager – People and Capability
Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao