



29 April 2024

9(2)a

Dear 9(2)a

Thank you for your email of 5 April 2024 to the Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry) requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Is your department at risk of overspending its financial appropriation this year?

If it is, please supply:

- *all correspondence with and information supplied to Treasury about this*
- *all correspondence with and information supplied to your Minister and your Minister's office about this*
- *all correspondence with and information supplied to the Public Services Commission about this*
- *all correspondence with and information supplied to the Auditor-General or his office about this*
- *all papers to or considered by your leadership team about this*
- *all papers to or considered by your risk and audit committee about this*
- *all papers to or considered by any other of your governance groups about this*

Have you set aside an allowance in this financial year for redundancies or other costs of restructuring?

- *If so, how much is that allowance*
- *If not, do you anticipate any costs for these in this financial year?*

In response to the first part of your request the Ministry is not at risk of overspending our appropriation for this financial year.

In response to the second part, the Ministry has announced a voluntary redundancy scheme which will incur costs this financial year, but the cost is unknown until this process has been completed. Further, an allowance for redundancy costs cannot be set aside until there is a formal change proposal announced, which has not yet occurred, at which point we would set an allowance for this.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman of my response relating to this request, 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.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Arun Patel'.

Arun Patel
General Manager, Finance and Procurement
Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao