

9(2)(a)

Dear 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 14 May 2021 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Please supply the following information under the [Official Information Act (OIA) / Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act (LGOIMA)]:

- 1. Does the organisation carry out drugs and alcohol testing (among employees or other persons)?
- 2. If drug and alcohol testing does take place at the organisation:
- a. Who currently provides the testing service i.e., name of service provider(s)?
- b. For each (named) service provider:
- i. What is the nature of the drug & alcohol testing service delivered e.g., saliva, urine, breath and alcohol and synthetic cannabinoids?
- ii. In what geographic location(s) is the service delivered?
- iii. Is the service provided under contract? If yes:
- 1. How many contracts does the provider have with your organisation?
- 2. What is the term of that/those contract(s)?
- What is the dollar value of that/those contract(s)?
- 4. Are there options for renewing that/those contract(s)?
- c. What organisation(s)/company(ies) previously conducted drug and alcohol testing for your organisation (repeat all of 'b' for previous service providers)?

If you need any more information from me, please let me know as soon as possible.

Funderstand that a decision on a request for information under the [OIA/LGOIMA] should be made within 20 working days of receiving that request.

If you do not normally deal with official information requests, or you need advice on dealing with this request, guidance is available from the Ombudsman at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

The Ministry for the Environment has not and does not carry out drug and alcohol testing of employees. Therefore, your request is refused under section 18(e) of the Act as the information requested does not exist.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman of my decision to withhold information relating to this request, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on their website at: <a href="https://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz">www.ombudsman.parliament.nz</a>.

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 <u>OIA responses page</u> shortly after the response has been sent. If you have any queries about this, please feel free to contact our Ministerial Services team: <u>ministerials@mfe.govt.nz</u>.

Yours sincerely

Laura Dixon

Director - People Experience