



30 July 2021

OIAD-75

9(2)(a)

Dear 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 3 July 2021 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

1. Copies of any communications you have sent to suppliers or contractors asking whether they meet the definition of a Māori business;
2. Copies of any communications you have sent to suppliers or contractors advising them of the requirements of the Progressive Procurement Policy;
3. The number/value of contracts your agency has terminated because a supplier or contractor didn't meet the definition of a Māori business since the Progressive Procurement Policy came into force; and
4. The number/value of contracts your agency has signed with Māori businesses since the Progressive Procurement Policy came into force.

The Ministry for the Environment is refusing your request for information under section 18(e) of the Act, as the documents alleged to contain the information requested do not exist.

The Progressive Procurement policy aims to increase the diversity of suppliers engaging with government procurement opportunities, initially by focusing on Māori businesses. The policy does not terminate existing contracts with suppliers.

Departments are now required to report on the target of 5 percent of the total number of buyer (mandated government agencies) procurement contracts awarded to Māori businesses. In order to do this, departments have been seeking information from suppliers to identify those that are a Māori business.

Further information regarding progressive procurement can be found on Te Puni Kōkiri's website: <https://www.tpk.govt.nz/en/a-matou-kaupapa/maori-economic-resilience/progressive-procurement>

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: [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://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](mailto:ministerials@mfe.govt.nz).

Yours sincerely

This response has been approved electronically by Kirsty Millard

Kirsty Millard  
Director – Legal and Procurement  
Legal Procurement and Ministerial Services

Released under the provision of  
the Official Information Act 1982