

8 November 2023

s9(2)(a)

Kia orāna s9(2)(a)

RESPONSE TO AN OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST (REF: DOIA025-2023/24)

On 18 October 2023, you contacted the Ministry for Pacific Peoples (the Ministry) requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), information relating to the Pacific Aotearoa Community Outreach. I have outlined your specific requests and my responses to each below.

1. *Were all fund recipients required to sign an agreement on how the funds they received would be spent and to report on their outcomes?*

Yes, all fund recipients were required to sign an agreement which included the funds approved, deliverables and the obligation to report on their outcomes through progress impact reporting and final completion impact reports.

2. *Has any PACO allocated money been paid out incorrectly or by mistake and if so, has that money been recovered?*

No PACO allocated monies have been paid incorrectly or by mistake.

3. *Was any PACO allocated money been spent on MPP promotional items generally known as 'merchandise' and if there was how much was spent?*

Yes, PACO allocated money has been spent on COVID-19 seasonal prevention items, generally known as 'merchandise'. The total amount spent on such items is \$185,592.

The PACO merchandise plays a key role in promoting COVID-19 prevention. The items included reusable face masks, hand sanitizers, and other collateral designed to foster safe practices within our Pacific communities across Aotearoa, New Zealand. These materials not only serve as a reminder but also provide essential tools to the community to mitigate the spread of the virus.

4. *Why are the recipients of The Pacific Aotearoa Community Outreach - Social Enterprise Fund and The Pacific Aotearoa Community Outreach Fund - Omicron Response not published on the MPP website?*

The recipients of the Pacific Aotearoa Community Outreach Fund - Social Enterprise and Omicron Response tranches were published on the MPP website on Thursday 2 November 2023.

This information is now publicly available here:

- <https://www.mpp.govt.nz/funding/paco-social-enterprise-fund/>
- <https://www.mpp.govt.nz/funding/omicron-response/>

In line with standard OIA practice, the Ministry proactively publishes some of its responses to OIA requests. As such, this letter may be published on the Ministry for Pacific Peoples' website. Your personal details will be removed, and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you or your organisation.

Should you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact the Ministry at: oia_requests@mpp.govt.nz.

If you are dissatisfied with this response, you have the right, under section 28(3) of the OIA, to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Meitaki ma'ata



Sachi Taulelei
Deputy Secretary,
Commissioning