



22 October 2021

By email: [REDACTED]

Ref: OIA-2021/22-0383

Dear [REDACTED]

Official Information Act request for information on Rodney Jones / Wigram Capital modelling work, and procurement rules

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 4 October 2021. You requested:

"Has DPMC paid any money for Rodney Jones/Wigram Capital modelling work? What procurement rules did DPMC follow in awarding the Sept 2021 - June 2022 (worth \$2m) contract to U of Auckland/Te Punaha Matatini?"

Regarding your first question on Rodney Jones / Wigram Capital, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet has paid Rodney Jones \$865 under the Cabinet Fees Framework, as a Special Advisor to the Strategic COVID-19 Public Health Advisory Group (SC19PHAG).

Regarding your second question on the procurement rules followed in awarding the contract you refer to, firstly I can confirm that that the Department's agreement is with the University of Auckland. The contract in question focussed on COVID-19 epidemic modelling and ongoing maintenance of the models as developed from a contestable funding round of the COVID-19 Innovation Acceleration fund which has since closed.

As a government agency, the Department complies with the Government Procurement Rules, which are managed by the Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment. More information is available at:

<https://www.procurement.govt.nz/procurement/principles-charter-and-rules/government-procurement-rules/>

In this case, the Department was able to directly source the specified services from the University of Auckland, opting out of the requirement to openly advertise the opportunity, applying rule 12. This allowed the Department to continue the successful relationship between the University of Auckland and the All of Government COVID-19 response that had been previously established under a separate agreement.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

This response will be published on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's website during our regular publication cycle. Typically, information is released monthly, or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

Yours sincerely



Amber Bill
Acting Deputy Chief Executive, COVID-19 Response