

11/09/2024

By email to: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

### **OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST 2024/51**

On 23 July 2024 you made a request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA) for the following information:

*Can you provide me with any reports that were conducted by consulting firms such as EY, Deloitte, KPMG, PwC, Martin Jenkins and other local consultancies typically used by government agencies since 2020 that looked into or reviewed any aspect of the electoral commission's operations including audits of individual functions. I am trying to ascertain what was known prior to the election about risks and issues that would be faced and any advice that may or may not have been taken on board. Were any of the issues spotted by these consultancies or was such consultancy insufficient and ineffective or lacking good terms. For example 'staffing issues' were noted but was this raised by any independent party to the executive or head of departments and not acted on or have any such consultation driven change that will prevent issues in future. I would like to know how much each consultation cost.*

We would firstly like to apologise for the delay in getting this information to you. As you will appreciate, the large amount of information being released as part of this request has taken longer to process than anticipated.

Please find attached the requested information. We have collated a table of the reports and attached the reports themselves.

Annual reports required under the Public Finance Act 1989 include copies of the independent audit reports, and are publicly available on our website [here](#). These are undertaken by the Office of the Auditor General. The audit is normally conducted by Audit New Zealand, but has temporarily been contracted out to KPMG. Costs of the audits can be found in our financial statements, which are included in the annual reports.

We have only included material within documents that are in scope of your request, we have redacted parts that are out of scope. Some contact details, such as phone numbers, email addresses and some names have been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA which relates to the privacy of natural persons.

In each case where redactions have been made under section 9(2)(a), consideration has been given to and I am satisfied that the reasons for withholding of the information are not outweighed by

other considerations which render it desirable in the public interest to make that information available.

In the interests of transparency, we release responses to Official Information Act requests every 3 months. We will publish this response with your personal details redacted.

You have the right under section 28(3) of the Act to make a complaint to the Ombudsman if you are not satisfied with the response to your request. Information about how to do this is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by phoning 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Karl Le Quesne  
Chief Electoral Officer