

09 December 2025

C206400

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 12 November 2025 to the Department of Corrections – Ara Poutama Aotearoa, requesting information about Corrections’ spending on consultants. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

Corrections’ policy on engaging external consultants and contractors requires that internal options are considered first, and we only engage consultants and contractors when this is not viable or practicable. While we aim to have as much work as possible carried out in-house, there will be some situations requiring us to bring in other people when a project requires specialist capabilities.

Consultants are generally engaged to provide specialist advice or expertise that is not available in-house, such as specific technical or advisory services. Consultants may be used to support specific programmes of work where it would not be cost effective to employ highly qualified technical staff on a permanent basis. For example, consultants may be used to provide specialist IT services, or structural engineering and building design services as part of significant property projects managed by Corrections. On some occasions, it may be necessary to engage consultants for services relating to a restructure or change process.

You requested:

1. *The total amount your agency spent on consultants in this FY to date, FY24/25, FY23/24, and FY22/23, broken down by year and by amount spent on Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3 consultants.*
2. *For each of the Tier 1 consultants contracted since July 2022, please provide:*
 - a. *Total spent with each per FY (including this FY to date)*
 - b. *Brief summary of work provided*
3. *If not possible to provide the level of detail requested in Q2, please provide the information requested in Q2 for each of the “big four” firms: Deloitte, KPMG, EY and PwC.*

Under section 16(2) of the OIA my preference is to receive the information in a searchable spreadsheet.

Corrections does not categorise consultants based on tiers. Accordingly, your request for this breakdown is refused under section 18(g) of the OIA, as the information requested is not held by Corrections, and we have no reason for believing that the information is held by another department or agency. Please note, the Office of the Ombudsman has deemed it not necessary for an agency to create information to satisfy requests for official information.

Corrections reports on the amount spent on consultants and contractors - including Deloitte, KPMG, EY, and PwC - through the Annual Review and Estimates select committee processes. The information you have requested is publicly available at the following links:

2022/2023 financial year

https://www3.parliament.nz/resource/en-NZ/54SCJUST_EVI_8be558f0-a4e2-4c8c-4a83-08dbfb701e36_JUST1695/71121641f9fa701403b368523e4f838d1293edea

(Question 68, page 102)

https://www3.parliament.nz/resource/en-NZ/54SCJUST_EVI_8be558f0-a4e2-4c8c-4a83-08dbfb701e36_JUST1694/04347d9feac980a48f4b50024206f3ffe0340afd

(Question 68, Appendix 10, page 65)

2023/2024 financial year

https://www.parliament.nz/resource/en-NZ/54SCJUST_EVI_f9db549a-17f5-414b-6507-08dcfd0f043f_JUST34828/5a7ea2f83452d54530c2c8ca243e5beaab894bb7

(Question 68, page 105)

https://www.parliament.nz/resource/en-NZ/54SCJUST_EVI_f9db549a-17f5-414b-6507-08dcfd0f043f_JUST34827/1f68ad733acaab7ebdae17f36fba6f58ac014d39

(Question 68, Appendix Nine, page 138)

2024/2025 financial year

Information for the 2024/2025 financial year will be collated and published in due course as part of the Annual Review and Estimate select committee process later this year. This information is therefore refused under section 18(d) of the OIA, as the information will soon be publicly available.

2025/2026 financial year

Information for the 2025/2026 financial year will be collated and published as part of next year's Annual Review and Estimate select committee process. This work is resource-intensive and time consuming, and to provide it outside the parameters of the select committee process would unreasonably inhibit Corrections' administrative operations. In accordance with the OIA, we have considered whether to affix a charge or extend the time limit for responding. However, given the scale of the request we do not consider that this would be an appropriate use of our publicly funded resources. This part of your request is

therefore refused under section 18(f) of the OIA, as the information cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

As per section 18B of the OIA, we have considered whether consulting with you would enable the request to be made in a form that would remove the reason for the refusal. However, we do not consider that the request can be refined in this instance, as we are already referring you to relevant information relating to consultants for the other years you are interested in.

Please note that this response may be published on Corrections' website. Typically, responses are published quarterly or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

I hope this information is helpful. I encourage you to raise any concerns about this response with Corrections. Alternatively, you are advised of your right to raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. Contact details are: Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alice Sciascia', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Alice Sciascia
Deputy Chief Executive
Strategy & Corporate Services