

16 February 2024

s9(2)(a)



Thank you for your email of 18 January 2024 to Kāinga Ora – Homes and Communities, requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*how much the agency spent per head on their end of year/ Christmas parties over the past two years – per year – and where they were held. And how many staff attended.*

The Kāinga Ora contribution to Christmas functions provided a \$40 per person allocation in 2022, and \$30 per person in 2023, for permanent and fixed term employees. This allocation can be used for food, venue hire, transportation if required, spot prizes and entertainment. This allocation cannot be used towards alcohol. Each employee is subsidised for only one Christmas function per year.

Christmas functions over the last two years were held at various locations and arranged by individual teams across the business. To provide you with information regarding the locations of each of these functions, and the number of staff that attended, would require a survey of individual cost code transactions and consultation with each business group. This would have significant and unreasonable resourcing implications and impacts on the completion of other priority work. Therefore, these parts of your request are declined under section 18(f) of the Act, as *“the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research”*.

As required by section 18(A) of the Act, consideration was given to extending the timeframe and/or fixing a charge for the information; however, these options would not significantly assist in making the information available.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this response. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or Freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that Kāinga Ora proactively releases our responses to official information requests where possible. Our response to your request may be published at <https://kaingaora.govt.nz/publications/official-information-requests/> with your personal information removed.

Yours sincerely



Rachel Kelly  
**Manager Government Relations**