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14 April 2025



Request under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 13 March 2025, requesting information from Te Pūkenga – New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology (Te Pūkenga) regarding payments made to external media organisations.

With reference to section 18(d) of the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) my office provided you with detailed weblinks to the last three years of Te Pūkenga Annual Review questions for select committee to assist your investigation, and asked you to clarify and refine your request using three suggested parameters.

You kindly clarified your request on 24 March and requested payments made to the following list of 15 media organisations, using totals exported from Te Pūkenga accounting system:

- 1. Stuff
- 2. NZME
- 3. RNZ
- 4. TVNZ
- 5. Whakaata Maori
- 6. Allied Press/ODT
- 7. Newsroom
- 8. The Spinoff
- 9. The Platform
- 10. Scoop
- 11. Interest.co.nz
- 12. NBR
- 13. Warner Bros. Discovery
- 14. Mediaworks
- 15. Pacific Media Network

As outlined by my office on 25 March, with reliance on section 15(1)(AA) of the OIA, due to you clarifying your request, the timeframe for making a decision on your request was reset, as 20 working days from 24 March.

This letter provides a formal decision on your request under the OIA.

The decision

As outlined by my office, Te Pūkenga was established on 1 April 2020, therefore payment records are only available from 2020. Our Finance team carried out a search for the 15 agencies you named within our accounts payable master file, for information within scope of your request.

Please find in the table below Te Pūkenga payments by calendar year, made to two of the 15 media organisations from your list, between April 2020 and the end of 2024.

50	Calendar year					
Media Organisation	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Grand total
NZME	=	1.5	101	\$2,074.78	\$14,057.65	\$16,132.43
Stuff	\$695.52	\$3,805.13	\$3,204.36	\$3,848.65	\$12,422.58	\$23,976.24

These payments may include advertising with the organisation and subscriptions to news sites. As these payments have been exported from our accounting system, they will not account for all payments to the agencies you listed, for example they will not include monthly subscriptions to media agencies paid for via kaimahi (staff) credit cards.

With reference to section 18(f) of the OIA (the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research), we are not able to break the information provided down further without manually going through each and every invoice.

You have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the OIA if you are not happy with this response. Information about how to do this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

We may publish our OIA responses and the information contained in our reply to you on our website. Before publishing we will remove any personal or identifiable information.

Ngā mihi

Gus Gilmore

Tumuaki | Chief Executive