



Ref: OIA 2023-018

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

29 September 2023

Kia ora [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request of 14 August 2023 seeking the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA):

- *The amount the commission has spent on climate and sustainability consulting over the last 5 years*
- *To what consultancy agencies and the amount paid to each.*
- *What reports have been delivered from this work.*
- *A breakdown based on year if possible would be appreciated.*

The Commission has considered your request in accordance with the OIA.

On 16 August 2023 we clarified with you that your request was asking about consultants hired to either:

1. help us deliver our monitoring and advice work, or
2. help us improve sustainability practices within the Climate Change Commission (the Commission).

On 5 September 2023 we extended the timeframe for responding to your request under section 15A(1) of the OIA as your request necessitated a search through a large volume of information and meeting the original time limit would unreasonably interfere with the operations of the Commission.

The Commission's purpose and the scope of our response

As we have mentioned to you in previous correspondence, the Commission is an independent Crown entity established in December 2019. Our role is to provide expert, evidence-based advice on climate change mitigation and adaptation to Government. The Commission also monitors and reviews the Government's progress towards its emissions reduction and adaptation goals. Our functions are set out in the Climate Change Response Act 2002¹, and we have a number of identified and regular statutory deliverables.

¹ Climate Change Response Act 2002 No 40 (as at 01 January 2023), Public Act 5J Commission's functions – New Zealand Legislation

To enable us to undertake our work, the Commission requires specialist expert knowledge and skills. In addition to our internal analytical staff, we employ consultants to support the delivery of our work programme and to provide specialist expertise as needed. This was particularly the case early in our establishment and as we move towards our permanent structure.

With regards to point 1 above, our statutory purpose means that all work undertaken at the Commission supports the delivery of our advice and monitoring outputs. This has an impact on our decision-making regarding the scope of your request and we have made further distinctions on what we consider is and is not in scope.

So that we could respond to you with information in a timely manner, Appendix A of this letter is a table of those consultants we have identified as providing direct expert support to prepare our advice to the Government on our statutory deliverables. We note you have also asked for information related to 'reports'; we have also provided you with details of other deliverables if relevant. Contracts with consultants which are currently underway have not been included in the scope of your request, as costs have not been finalised.

Also in Appendix A are details relevant to point 2 above, namely those consultants engaged to help improve our sustainability practices.

Further information that may be of interest

As noted in our letter to you on 5 September 2023 – as part of our regular public reporting and accountability process – we provide information related to contractors and consultants in our Annual Reviews. These are publicly available on Parliament's website and we have provided links in our previous letter to you for those that are already complete.

We are expecting our next annual review select committee hearing to take place either at the end of this year or beginning of next year and we will provide the select committee with contractor and consultant information prior to this.

Our advice, and information about the evidence we have used to develop it, is available on our website. You can find draft and final reports, submissions to select committees, and other advice and feedback we give to Government at <https://www.climatecommission.govt.nz/our-work/advice-to-government-topic/>.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of this response by the Office of the Ombudsman, in accordance with section 28(3) of the OIA. Contact details for the Ombudsman can be found on their website at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz

Please note that the Commission proactively releases its responses to requests made under the OIA. This is to help ensure others can also have access to this information. As such, this letter will shortly be published on our website with your name and contact details redacted to protect your privacy.

Ngā mihi



Dr Grant Blackwell
Chief Science Adviser

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Appendix A

Consultants engaged to provide expertise for use in our advice and monitoring function:

Consultancy	Financial Year	Deliverables, if any	Cost (\$) excl GST
Allen and Clarke	2020/21 2021/22	Policy support for the Heat, Industry and Power team and Transport team to deliver the final advice and evidence reports.	27,311 (20/21 FY) 36,225 (21/22 FY)
Business and Economic Research Ltd	2020/21	Provision of baseline Māori economic data including land, transport, and energy costs.	40,000
CICERO	2020/21	A paper summarising the state of scientific understanding of what is needed to keep global warming below 1.5 degrees and outlining the policy choices compatible with that goal.	13,500
Concept Consulting Group Limited	2019/20 2020/21 2021/22	Bottom-up modelling of the NZ economy for climate mitigation analysis. This included further development of existing energy and emissions modelling, developing and running new, open-source models, and training Commission staff in using the model.	190,000 (19/20 FY) 109,830 (20/21 FY) 102,170 (21/22 FY)
Consultant A	2020/21	Various experts were commissioned to peer review our models for the first three emissions budgets. <i>The name of this consultant has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.</i>	2,609
Consultant B	2019/20	Specialist climate change advice on an as needed basis. <i>The name of this consultant has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.</i>	5,600
CoreLogic NZ Ltd.	2020/21	Data supply of LINZ land parcels flagged as Māori land, analysing value, land use, improvements.	15,500
Culy Consulting	2019/20 2020/21	Expert modelling advice on an as needed basis.	9,077 (19/20 FY) 6,573 (20/21 FY)

Emission Impossible Ltd.	2019/20 2020/21	Delivery of draft mitigation templates for each intervention to inform modelling inputs and broader analytical work around options for how to reduce emissions from transport from a techno-economic and policy delivery perspective.	35,743 (19/20 FY) 31,207 (20/21 FY)
Energy Link Ltd.	2020/21 2021/22 2022/23	Detailed modelling of the electricity system in specific scenarios, and assistance analysing the results.	19,855 (20/21 FY) 13,242 (21/22 FY) 1,292 (22/23 FY)
Energy Link Ltd.	2022/23	Further modelling for three specific scenarios.	1,292
Energy Link Ltd.	2020/21 2021/22	Energy modelling using specific demand projections and carbon prices for various scenarios, and assistance interpreting results.	6,371 (20/21 FY) 13,242 (21/22 FY)
Greenhouse Gas Management Institute	2020/21	Review and provide evidence in relation to emissions reporting and accounting.	8,648
Infometrics Consulting Ltd.	2021/22	Expert peer review of Commission models and processes	20,000
Landcare Research NZ Ltd.	2021/22	A survey of farmers with the aim of gathering information about measuring emissions, emissions pricing, and attitudes towards emissions reduction, among other topics.	40,000
Lincoln University: Agribusiness & Economics Research Unit	2021/22	Modelling of agricultural emissions leakage.	40,000
Martin Jenkins and Associates Ltd.	2022/23	Support producing the final report on ETS price settings, and peer review of the Commission's advice on the Emissions Reduction Plan	32,470
Motu Economic and Public Policy Research	2020/21 2021/22	A rural impacts study analysing the nature and quality of employment in the agriculture and forestry sectors.	20,000 (20/21 FY) 20,000 (21/22 FY)

Motu Economic and Public Policy Research	2019/20 2020/21 2021/22	Development of a CGE model of the New Zealand economy for climate mitigation analysis	235,476 (19/20 FY) 420,399 (20/21 FY) 80,319 (21/22 FY)
Resources for the Future	2019/20 2021/22	Expert review and advice on economy wide model and sectorial models.	9,792 (19/20 FY) 5,023 (21/22 FY)
Retyna Ltd.	2019/20 2020/21	Review of mitigation options for the transport sector as well as peer review of mitigation templates produced by the Commission.	23,940 (19/20 FY) 25,830 (20/21 FY)
Sapere Research Group	2022/23	Establishing monitoring of effectiveness function	89,359
Sapere Research Group	2022/23	Overarching analytical approach to statutory deliverables	30,943
Signature Consulting Ltd.	2020/21	Facilitation of modelling	900
Signature Consulting Ltd.	2019/20 2020/21	Temporary resource to support HIP and Transport team	11,000 (19/20 FY) 23,950 (20/21 FY)
Stellar Consulting Group Ltd	2022/23	Data and Visualisation System Stage 1	41,015
Thought Partners Ltd.	2019/20 2020/21	Co-design and facilitation of 16 half day Technical Working Groups to help develop and test advice for Ināia tonu nei.	FY19/20: 18,475 FY20/21: 18,000 Total: 36,475
True North Consulting	2020/21	A report identifying opportunities and policies to reduce waste emissions, as well as identifying and engaging with key stakeholders. True North also provided peer review of Commission waste emission models.	6,675
Truly Sustainable Ltd.	2019/20 2020/22	Analytical support with the delivery of the first three emissions budgets and the emissions reduction plan, focussed on Te Mahere Whakamua.	37,800 (19/20 FY) 56,348 (20/21 FY)

Consultants engaged to help us improve sustainability practices

Consultancy	Financial Year	Deliverables, if any	Cost (\$) excl GST
Toitū Envirocare	2021/22	Contract for carbon reduction programme and membership	10,609
Toitū Envirocare	2020/21	Carbon reduction programme. Set-up, Audit and Certification.	23,400