



4 September 2024

Privacy of natural  
persons

Ref: DOIA 2425-05394

Tēnā koe Privacy of nature

Thank you for your email of 28 August 2024 to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), the following information:

*“costs associated with the "Oranga (Wellbeing)" research project, as detailed on New Zealand's Biological Heritage website at <https://bioheritage.nz/research/oranga-wellbeing/>.*

*We request the following information:*

- *The total cost of the "Oranga (Wellbeing)" research project to date.*
- *The total cost for each project:*
  - *Te Whakaora a Ngā Kauri: rongoā solutions for kauri ora*
  - *Te Reo o te waonui a Tāne (the language of the domain of Tāne)*
  - *Hapū solutions for myrtle rust*
  - *Te mana motuhake a ngā kākano (the sovereignty of seeds)*
  - *A 'Critical Friend' approach*
- *An individual cost breakdown for each of the above projects including but not limited to:*
  - *Research personnel salaries and wages*
  - *Administrative and operational expenses*
  - *Any external contracts, consultancy fees or commissions*
  - *Costs related to community and iwi engagement and consultation*
  - *Any other relevant expenditure*
  - *Please provide receipts where possible for all of the above.*
- *The sources of funding for this research, including the amount contributed by each source (e.g., government grants, private sector contributions, etc.).*
- *Any projected future costs related to this research."*

This letter is to advise you that your request has been transferred to Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research. This is because your request is more closely aligned with the functions of Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research as hosts for New Zealand's Biological Heritage. Section 14(b)(ii) of the Official Information Act allows me to transfer any request that is believed to be more closely aligned with the functions of another department, organisation or Minister of the Crown.

The "Oranga (Wellbeing)" research project was funded out of the Strategic Science Investment Fund (SSIF) research platform to combat the spread of kauri dieback and myrtle rust. This platform is devolved

funding, contracted to a host organisation. Decisions about programme funding and the activities supported have been made by the platform in line with the approved Platform Plan. The New Zealand's Biological Heritage National Science Challenge hosted and implemented the platform over a 5-year period from May 2019 to March 2024. The total cost of the Oranga project reported to MBIE was approximately \$4 million (GST exclusive). MBIE's SSIF contract has ended with the platform and there are no projected future costs from MBIE.

I trust you find the information helpful. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. C. Drage'.

Dr Trevor Drage  
Manager Strategic Investments  
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment