

14 October 2022

DOIA22/204

9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe 9(2)(a)

I refer to your Official Information Act (OIA) request of 16 September 2022, for some specific information (as outlined in the table below) - in relation to transition resourcing of the Strong Public Media (SPM) Programme.

On 27 and 28 September, we clarified the request with you to the 'Establishment Phase' of the SPM Programme, which covers the period from 1 April 2022 – 1 March 2023 when the new entity (ANZPM) is created.

The Establishment Phase involves all the work required to get ANZPM legally created (planned for March 1), TVNZ and RNZ operations and staff into the new entity, and then covers the period when ANZPM has its own Board and an interim CE through to July 1 when it begins operating with its new funding. In other words, it covers the change and transition period.

The SPM Programme has entered Memorandums of Understanding with TVNZ, RNZ, and NZ On Air, which includes the ability for those Crown entities to seek reimbursement for costs on a monthly basis for their staff who are working in a substantive capacity on SPM activity.

The information requested for your specific questions are outlined in the table below.

Questions	Answers
1) All For all major workstreams or tasks or similar:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The total budget allocations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Total budget allocation of \$38.3 million through to financial year 2023/24 has been appropriated to establish the new public media entity, and is limited to establishing the new entity and related services and advice, to support its establishment and initial operations</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actual spending so far</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actual spending to 31 August 2022 is \$4.384 million</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forecast spending out to end of transition</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forecast spending is \$33.916 million</li> </ul>
2) Detail of any and all actual spending on, current or past, or budgeting for, and/or forecasts of spending on:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Branding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actual: nil</li> </ul>

Questions	Answers
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indicative forecast (including actual): \$3.000 million - this figure is an estimate of what branding work could cost, but the Establishment Board is yet to determine if any preliminary work on branding will occur before the new entity is established, and it will be for the new entity to make decisions on any branding</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rebranding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actual: nil.</li> <li>Forecast (including actual): nil</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Marketing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actual: nil.</li> <li>Forecast (including actual): nil</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communications</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actual: \$0.281 million</li> <li>Forecast (including actual): \$0.455 million</li> </ul>
3) For the entire transition programme of work - all staffing costs in the way they are presented in budgets including actual and forecast spending:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Permanent</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actual: \$0.190 million</li> <li>Forecast (including actual): \$0.266 million</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fixed term</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actual: \$0.388 million</li> <li>Forecast (including actual): \$1.008 million</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contractors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actual: \$1.367 million</li> <li>Forecast (including actual): \$5.987 million</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Professional services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actual: nil</li> <li>Forecast (including actual): nil</li> </ul>
4) The most current substantive two risk assessments as it relates to integration of TVNZ and RNZ regarding:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff</li> <li>Programming</li> <li>Public perceptions</li> <li>Rebranding</li> <li>Cost controls around personnel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Withheld under sections: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9(2)(f)(iv) – to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials</li> <li>9(2)(g)(i) – to maintain effective conduct of public affairs through free and frank expressions of opinions</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the OIA. I do not consider these considerations outweigh the need to withhold the information.

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

9(2)(a)

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Emily Fabling  
**Deputy Chief Executive**  
**Policy and Sector Performance**

PROACTIVELY RELEASED