

OIA Response to Request for information about fees payable to the members of the Tuia - Encounters 250 Committee

29 August 2019

Date: 12 June 2019

Title: OIA Response to Request for information about fees payable to the members of the Tuia - Encounters 250 Committee

Author: Ministry for Culture and Heritage

This document has been proactively released.

Some parts of this briefing would not be appropriate to release and, if requested, would be withheld under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA). Where this is the case, the relevant sections of the OIA that would apply have been identified. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

Section 9(2)(a) Information has been withheld to protect the privacy of natural persons.

12 June 2019

Dear **s9(2)(a)**

I refer to your email dated 18 May to the New Zealand Geographic Board: Toitū te Whenua. On 21 May your email was transferred to Manatū Taonga: Ministry for Culture and Heritage (MCH) as lead agency for *Tuia – Encounters 250 (Tuia 250)* and has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

I want to take the opportunity to advise that *Tuia 250* is a national tier one commemoration that acknowledges 250 years since the first onshore meetings between Māori and Europeans. The Commemoration reflects Aotearoa's dual heritage and celebrates both Polynesian and European voyaging traditions and navigation techniques. Further information about the Commemoration can be found on the website www.tuia250.nz/

You enquired about the committee overseeing the Commemoration, the members that make up that Committee and any fees payable to the members. The Cabinet-mandated National Coordinating Committee (NCC) is responsible for connecting commemorative activity regionally and nationally to ensure a cohesive and coordinated programme.

The NCC is made up of two representatives from each of the four Landing Site Trusts (in Gisborne, Bay of Islands, Mercury Bay, and Marlborough) and is co-chaired by Dame Jenny Shipley and Hoturoa Barclay-Kerr. Representatives from MCH, the Ministry of Education, Te Puni Kōkiri, and the Department of Conversation also sit on the NCC to reflect the cross-government approach in this important commemoration.

Pursuant to section 9(2)(a) of the Act, which protects the privacy of individuals, I am withholding the specific amount paid to members and co-chairs. However I can advise that the co-chairs receive annual honoraria for meetings, community engagement, media statements and interviews. The Landing Site Trust members receive a sitting fee for each full day meeting, this would not generally exceed 6 days per annum. Government agency members are not separately remunerated for their work on the Committee as it is expected that this will form part of their agency's commitment to *Tuia 250*.

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 or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that, in the interests of transparency and open access to public information, we intend to publish this letter (with your personal details removed) on the Ministry's website.

Yours sincerely

Tamsin Evans
Deputy Chief Executive, *Tuia – Encounters 250*