

8 March 2023

DOIA23/043

s9(2)(a)

Kia ora s9(2)(a)

I refer to your Official Information Act (OIA) request transferred to the Ministry for Culture and Heritage on 17 February 2023, asking for information related Aotearoa New Zealand Public Media. You asked:

*Can we get a breakdown of where the 25 million has been spent on the cancelled Radio Television merger. also where is the additional 25 million to wind up this failed merger being spent.*

We have interpreted your request as relating to the Strong Public Media programme, which was tasked with supporting the creation of a new public media entity - Aotearoa New Zealand Public Media (ANZPM). On 8 February 2023, the Prime Minister announced that this programme of work would stop.

The total cost to date for the programme identified to end December 2022 was \$16.1 million. January and February costs are yet to be totalled and in closing down the programme we expect additional costs to be accrued.

This information will be published on the Ministry's website following receipt of final invoices. We expect this to be completed by the end of March 2023. Therefore, your request has been refused under section 18(d) of the OIA as the information you have requested will soon be publicly available.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact [oi@mch.govt.nz](mailto:oi@mch.govt.nz).

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

s9(2)(a)

Emily Fabling

**Pou Mataaho o Te Aka - Deputy Chief Executive, Policy and Sector Performance**

PROACTIVELY RELEASED