

1 July 2021

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Dear Shimul

Official Information Act 1982 request 2021-0717 – Islamic Site Security Enhancement Project

Thank you for your Official Information Act (Act) request received by the Department of Internal Affairs (Department) on 8 June 2021.

You requested -

We would like to request information on the NZ Government-Funded Islamic Site Security Enhancement Project. Our request is in relation to Hawke's Bay Baitul Mukarram Masjid and Islamic Centre (FIA-HAS-01). Please provide the below:

- 1. Budget for the whole programme
- 2. Number of mosque participants on this programme
- 3. Procurement Process for this programme
- 4. Number of vendors submitted for this procurement
- 5. Number of companies selected for the project delivery
- 6. Notes confirmation the selection and the selection process
- 7. Budget Approved for Hawke's Bay Baitul Mukarram Masjid and Islamic Centre (FIA-HAS-01)
- 8. Annual Cost approved for Hawke's Bay Baitul Mukarram Masjid and Islamic Centre (FIA-HAS-01)
- 9. Copy of the service agreement

In response to your request I can provide you with the following information.

Question one

The Safer Communities Fund (SCF) budget was \$7 million for the 2019/20 financial year and \$3.5 million for the 2020/21 financial year.

Question two

I can advise that 50 Mosques have accessed funding through the SFC.

Questions three, four, five, six, and nine

The Department does not manage a procurement process or hold procurement information relating to the SCF. The procurement process, including the final selection of security providers and the purchase of their services, is managed solely by applicant groups themselves or by a lead applicant group that has been authorised to act on behalf of other groups.

Therefore, I must refuse this part of your request under section 18(g)(i) of the Act; that the information requested is not held by the department.

The Department notes that the Hawke's Bay Baitul Mukarram Masjid and Islamic Centre security project was part of the application submitted by the Federation of Islamic Associations of NZ (FIANZ). FIANZ may hold the procurement information you are seeking.

Question seven

A budget of \$75,373 (excluding GST) was approved (via the FIANZ application) for the Hawke's Bay Baitul Mukarram Masjid and Islamic Centre. These funds were approved to support works outlined in the site security plan for the Hawke's Bay Baitul Mukarram Masjid and Islamic Centre.

Question eight

A one-off amount of \$75,373 (excluding GST) was approved in the 2019/20 financial year for the Hawke's Bay Baitul Mukarram Masjid and Islamic Centre security project. No ongoing annual funding has been approved.

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.

Yours sincerely

Julia Taylor

Manager Operational Policy and Official Correspondence

Service Delivery and Operations