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Fire and Emergency New Zealand
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4 November 2022

Mark MacDonald
By email: fyi-request-20357-889e6ad6@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Mark

Information Request –PWC audit of UFBA

I refer to your official information request dated 26 August 2022 asking for Information about the PWC audit of the UFBA.

On 23 September 2022, we responded to part of your request and notified you that an extension for consultation was required to 4 November 2022. We advised that there had been no formal advice provided about the appropriateness of the appointments of the Chair and Chief Executive of Tangata Matatau Ltd.

You emailed on 26 September 2022. You corrected our misunderstanding about the type of information you were seeking in relation to question 3, and we have responded to the request below. You also refined question 4 of your request to all communications from August and September 2020 only around the 2020 UFBA investigation into the UFBA CEO.

In accordance with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), please find below a response to your request.

1. Please provide the 2021 PWC audit of the funding provided to the UFBA.

Please find enclosed as appendix 1 the 2021 PWC audit of the funding provided to the UFBA.

2. Please provide all communications around commissioning this audit.

Please find enclosed all communications Fire and Emergency hold around the commissioning of the PWC audit. Some personal information has been withheld to protect the privacy of natural persons under section 9(2)(a) of the Official information Act 1982. We do not consider that there is a public interest in the release of the information which outweighs withholding it.

3. Please provide all information around PWC's advice about the appropriateness of the appointments of the Chair and Chief Executive of the UFBA as directors of Tangata Matatau Ltd.

Providing advice on the appropriateness of the appointments was outside of the Terms of Reference for PWC's audit of UFBA. However, please find enclosed as appendix 3 an email in scope of your request that refers to the query from the Audit and Risk Committee about the appointments. Following on from this conversation, verbal advice was provided by PWC to the Fire and Emergency Board. Please find enclosed in appendix 3 part of the board minute of 25 June 2021.

Some information in appendix 3 has been withheld to protect the privacy of natural persons under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA. We do not consider that there is a public interest in the release of the information which outweighs withholding it.

4. Please provide all communications from August and September 2020 around the 2020 UFBA investigation into the UFBA CEO.

Please find enclosed as appendix 4 all communications in scope of your request.

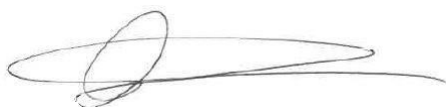
A decision has been made to withhold some of the information under the following sections of the OIA:

- Section 9(2)(h) - to maintain legal professional privilege
- Section 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons
- Section 9(2)(g)(i) - to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to Ministers of the Crown or members of an organisation or officers and employees of any public service agency or organisation in the course of their duty; and

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.

Note also that this response (with your personal details removed) may be published on the Fire and Emergency website.

Nāku noa nā



Julia McCook-Weir
Manager, Information Requests

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