

31 October 2023

Chris Mccashin

fyi-request-23935-c4f9c009@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Chris

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation which was transferred from Hon Carmel Sepuloni's Office and received on 18 October 2023, in which you asked:

'Please provide the most recent report completed by the Government and their individual agencies that have funding in excess of \$20m that report on:

- *How the agency tackles exploitation risks in their operations and supply chain*
- *Specifically looking for supply chains relating to individual agencies and electric cars*
- *Specifically looking for supply chains relating to individual agencies and mobile phones*
- *Specifically looking for supply chains for any products the government buys in bulk that require rare earth minerals mined in third world countries contributing to modern slavery'*

We have accepted transfer of your request which has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982.

Your questions and our responses are listed below:

1. *How the agency tackles exploitation risks in their operations and supply chain:*

The Department is committed to sustainable business and has developed a "Sustainable Business Practices Plan" which focuses on the protection of the environment and prudent use of resources. We are also committed to the Governments Broader Outcomes objectives which seeks that respondents demonstrate their commitment to sustainability, ethical supply and broader outcomes through their tender or proposal responses. This includes seeking assurance from respondents on their compliance regarding sustainable business practices, ethical supply (inclusive of how they ensure there is no underpaid, unpaid, child or coerced labour in their supply chains) and how they ensure employment opportunities for priority social groups and the approach taken to ensuring fair-pay arrangements with employees.

Please note that we do not hold any specific reports covering how we address exploitation risks within our supply chains. This aspect of your request is therefore refused in full via section 18(e) of the Official Information Act as the document sought does not exist.

2. *Specifically looking for supply chains relating to individual agencies and electric cars:*

The Department purchases its electric vehicles through the All-of-Government (AoG) Motor Vehicle contract that is managed and administered by the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment (MBIE). Any questions in regard to electric vehicles and their supply chains purchased under the AoG Motor Vehicle contract should be directed to MBIE.

3 *Specifically looking for supply chains relating to individual agencies and mobile phones:*

The department purchases its mobile phones through the Telecommunications as a Service (TaaS) contract that is managed and administered by the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA). Any questions in regard to mobile phones and their supply chains purchased under the TaaS contract should be directed to DIA.

4 *Specifically looking for supply chains for any products the government buys in bulk that require rare earth minerals mined in third world countries contributing to modern slavery:*

The Department purchases laptops through the Desktops as a Service (DaaS) contract that is managed and administered by the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA). Any questions regarding laptops their batteries and their supply chains purchased under the DaaS contract should be directed to DIA. To the best of its knowledge the Department is not aware of any other purchases that may have required the supply of rare earth materials.

You are entitled to seek an investigation and review of my decision by writing to an Ombudsman as provided by section 28(3) of the Official Information Act.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) may be published on the Department's website.

Nāku noa, nā



CJ Juby
Director, Business Services
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai