

Schedule of initial responses to McGuinness Institute's OIA 2025/01

This schedule contains non-confidential initial responses received by each government department in response to our OIA 2025/01.

01. Crown Law Office
02. Department of Conservation
03. Department of Corrections
04. Department of Internal Affairs
05. Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
06. Education Review Office
07. Government Communications Security Bureau
08. Inland Revenue Department
09. Land Information New Zealand
10. Ministry for Culture and Heritage
11. Ministry for Pacific Peoples
12. Ministry for Primary Industries
13. Ministry for Regulation
14. Ministry for the Environment
15. Ministry for Women
16. Ministry of Business, Innovation, and Employment
17. Ministry of Defence
18. Ministry of Disabled People
19. Ministry of Education
20. Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
21. Ministry of Health
22. Ministry of Housing and Urban Development
23. Ministry of Justice
24. Ministry of Māori Development—Te Puni Kōkiri
25. Ministry of Social Development
26. Ministry of Transport
27. New Zealand Customs Service
28. New Zealand Security Intelligence Service
29. Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children
30. Public Service Commission
31. Serious Fraud Office
32. Social Investment Agency
33. Statistics New Zealand
34. The Treasury

Wednesday, January 8, 2025 at 11:33:21 New Zealand Daylight Time

Subject: RE: OIA 2025/01 - 2024 GDS Index (01 - CLO)
Date: Wednesday, 8 January 2025 at 10:13:21 AM New Zealand Daylight Time
From: [REDACTED]
To: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
Attachments: image001.jpg

Kia ora Wendy

We acknowledge receipt of your email of 2 January 2025 requesting information under the Official Information Act 1982.

No GDSs were held by Crown Law Office in the 2024 GDS Index.

Ngā mihi nui | Kind regards

Te Tari Ture o te Karauna Crown Law Office
19 Aitken Street | PO Box 2858 | Wellington 6011



**Te Tari Ture
o te Karauna**
Crown Law

OIAD-4811

10 February 2025

Wendy McGuinness
McGuinness Institute Te Hononga Waka

gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org

Tēnā koe Wendy

Thank you for your requests to the Department of Conservation, received on 6 January 2025.

Principal request

You asked the Department to review two attached Excel spreadsheets, in the following way:

“ Sheet 1: Review of the 2023 GDS Index

Please update the status of each GDS in the yellow-highlighted column F

...

Sheet 2: Potential ‘new’ GDSs

Has the department published a new strategy document in the 2024 calendar year that may meet the GDS definition?... please add a new row – one for each strategy document and complete the yellow-highlighted columns A to D “

Supplementary request

“In addition to the information requested in the two attachments we have two outstanding questions that came up during our consolidation process for the 2023 GDS Index.”

Department’s responses

We have considered your requests under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

Your ‘questions and our responses are set out below.

1. *Review and update of the 2023 GDS Index (Sheet 1)*

The status of all GDSs has been updated with ‘*still active*’, ‘*archived*’ or ‘*no longer owned and operated by this government department*’, in the **attached** Excel document.

Our updates are based on the GDS definition you provided.

2. *Advice of any new strategy documents published by the Department in the 2024 calendar year that may meet the GDS definition (Sheet 2)*

All new GDSs, for the 2024 calendar year, have been added into the **attached** Excel document. These include:

- Critical Ecosystem Pressures on Freshwater Environments (CRESP) 4-year research strategy
- Te Rautaki Whakaora Kea: Kea Recovery Strategy 2024-2034.
- Te Ara Mōrehu: Kākāriki karaka recovery strategy
- Conservation management of the critically endangered matuku-hūrepo/Australasian bittern: a review of threats and preliminary management techniques
- Addressing the threat of toxoplasmosis to Hector's and Māui dolphins: an action plan
- Predator Free 2050 Interim Implementation Plan 2024–2030
- Te Mana o te Taiao: Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy Implementation Plan

Our additions are based on the GDS definition you provided, and as requested, do not include documents that are not publicly available, or documents with a local focus such as conservation management strategies.

3. *“In the 2023 GDS Index, the Wilding Conifer Management Strategy (December 2014) was treated as jointly held by MPI and DOC. However, later OIA correspondence suggested that MPI was the lead agency.
...Should this strategy be treated as:
i. jointly held between MPI and DOC, or
ii. solely held by MPI as the lead agency.”*

It should be treated as *‘solely held by MPI as the lead agency’*.

The Department works collaboratively with the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) on the National Wildling Conifer Control Programme, including representation on the associated governance group. We are not the lead or joint lead though of the noted Wilding Conifer Management Strategy.

4. *“In the 2023 GDS Index, Hector's and Maui Dolphin Threat Management Plan 2020 (December 2021) was treated as solely held by DOC as DOC did not list it as jointly held in their OIA response (19/02/24). However, MPI included it as a GDS they jointly hold with DOC in their OIA response (25/03/24).
...Should this strategy be treated as:
i. jointly held between DOC and MPI, or
ii. solely held by DOC as the lead agency.*

It should be treated as *‘jointly held between DOC and MPI’*.

The Hector's and Maui Dolphin Threat Management Plan is led by the Department and Fisheries New Zealand (part of MPI). The Department is responsible for managing the dolphin populations, while Fisheries New Zealand is responsible for managing the impacts of fishing on the dolphins.

We note that the information, contained in this letter and the **attached** Excel spreadsheet documents, has been prepared and provided for the purposes of updating the 2023 GDS Index and compiling the 2024 GDS Index.

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

Nāku noa, nā



Chief Financial Officer
Department of Conservation | *Te Papa Atawhai*

Friday, January 17, 2025 at 12:43:23 New Zealand Daylight Time

Subject: C191365 RE: [EXTERNAL] OIA 2025/01 - 2024 GDS Index (03 - DoC)
Date: Thursday, 16 January 2025 at 3:47:00 PM New Zealand Daylight Time
From: [REDACTED]
To: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
Attachments: image001.jpg, image002.png, image003.jpg, image004.jpg, image005.jpg, image011.png, image012.jpg, image013.jpg, image014.jpg, image015.jpg, C191365 - 03. Department of Corrections Draft V1.xlsx

Tēnā koe Wendy,

Please see the attached updated Excel spreadsheet with updates to Corrections' GDSs.

I trust the information provided is of assistance. I encourage you to raise any concerns about this response with Corrections. Alternatively, you are advised of your right to also raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. Contact details are: Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Ngā mihi,

[REDACTED]

Principal Adviser, Ministerial Services

Ara Poutama Aotearoa, *Department of Corrections*

National Office, Mayfair House, 44-52 The Terrace, Wellington, 6011





**Te Tari Taiwhenua
Internal Affairs**

13 February 2024

45 Pipitea Street, Thorndon, Wellington 6011

PO Box 805, Wellington 6140

Phone +64 4 495 7200

Fax +64 4 382 3589

Email OIA@dia.govt.nz

Website www.dia.govt.nz

Wendy McGuinness
McGuinness Institute
Via email: wmcg@mcguinnessinstitute.org

Tēnā koe Wendy

Your Official Information Act request OIA2425-0623

Thank you for your request, received by the Department of Internal Affairs (Department) on 24 December 2024, for the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

1. *Please could you review the two sheets in the attached Excel to answer these questions:
Sheet 1: Review of the 2023 GDS Index*
 - a. *Please update the status of each GDS in the yellow-highlighted column F: Are there any GDSs that are missing from the attached document? If yes please add to the Excel document attached.*
 - b. *Has the department published a new strategy document in the 2024 calendar year that may meet the GDS definition? (Find the definition and learn more about the Index on the next page.) If so, please add a new row – one for each strategy document – and complete the yellow-highlighted columns A to D:*

Please refer to the attached collation table, which provides the requested information in full.

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.

Nāku noa, nā,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted name]

Director Office of the Secretary
Department of Internal Affairs



13 February 2025

Wendy McGuinness
McGuinness Institute
gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org

Ref: OIA-2024/25-0554

Dear Wendy McGuinness

Official Information Act request relating to the 2024 GDS Index

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 2 January 2025. You requested:

“Please find attached our OIA request. It relates to the Institute’s upcoming 2024 GDS Index and consists of two attachments:

- *Attachment 1: A letter outlining what information we are requesting and why.*
- *Attachment 2: An Excel consisting of two sheets for you to update yellow-highlighted columns.*

[Request as identified in Attachment 1]

Please could you review the two sheets in the attached Excel to answer these questions:

Sheet 1: Review of the 2023 GDS Index

Please update the status of each GDS in the yellow-highlighted column F.

Sheet 2: Potential ‘new’ GDSs

Has the department published a new strategy document in the 2024 calendar year that may meet the GDS definition?.....”

I am writing to inform you that a decision has been made on your request. We have determined to grant your request for information as detailed below. The information prepared for release is at the final stage of the approval process and we will aim forward it to you as soon as possible.

I have identified information I have decided to release the information relevant to *Sheet 1: Review of the 2023 GDS Index*, which has been added to the excel spreadsheet as instructed.

Regarding your request for information relevant to *Sheet 2: Potential ‘new’ GDSs*, you have asked the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) to use the McGuinness Institute definition criteria provided to identify appropriate strategy information for inclusion in the McGuinness Institute 2024 Government Department Strategies (GDS) Index.

DPMC does not apply these criteria or categorise information for a similar purpose while undertaking its functions. To ensure that all relevant information is correctly defined and consistent, I consider that the McGuinness Institute itself is best placed to determine which *new strategy document(s) in the 2024 calendar year meet the GDS definition*. You can find our publications on the DPMC website at this link publications page in this link <https://www.dPMC.govt.nz/publications>. You can filter your search according to the GDS definition criteria.

DPMC is not in a position to consider any additional information requested until the publications for inclusion in the proposed 2024 GDS Index have been identified by your organisation. Accordingly, I have refused your request for information relevant to *Sheet 2: Potential 'new' GDSs* under section 18(d) of the Act – the information requested is publicly available.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

We do not intend to publish this response on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's website.

Yours sincerely

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the Executive Director.A black oval redaction box covering the name of the Executive Director.

**Executive Director
Strategy, Governance and Engagement**



Level 1, 101 Lambton Quay
PO Box 2799
Wellington 6140
SX10166

T 04 499 2489
F 04 499 2482

www.ero.govt.nz

NZBN 9429041901809

Our Ref: 25 - 260

13 February 2025

Wendy McGuinness
gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org

Dear Wendy

Re: Official Information Act request for government department strategies

I refer to your email to the Education Review Office dated 2 January 2025 requesting information under the Official Information Act 1982.

Please find ERO's completed spreadsheet attached with this letter.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. We do not publish requesters' personal information.

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 <http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz> or freephone 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi,




Deputy Chief Executive, Corporate Services
Education Review Office

13 February 2025

Wendy McGuinness
gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org

Tēnā koe Wendy

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request of 2 January 2025 to both the Government Communications Security Bureau (GCSB) and New Zealand Security Intelligence Service (NZSIS), seeking the following information:

1. *Are the existing GDSs (as at 31 December 2021) still active?*
2. *Are there any GDSs that are missing from the attached document? If yes please add to the Excel document attached.*
3. *Are there any GDSs that are included in the attached document that have been recently archived (and therefore need to be removed from our list)?*

Response

We have chosen to provide a combined response as our agencies share some joint enabling functions relevant to your queries. With regard to question 2, the following additions have been made:

- GCSB Strategy 2023-27
<https://www.gcsb.govt.nz/assets/GCSB-Documents/GCSB-Strategy-2023-2027.pdf>
- NZSIS Strategy 2024-29
<https://www.nzsis.govt.nz/assets/NZSIS-Documents/NZSIS-Strategy-2024-2029.pdf>

Please find an updated spreadsheet enclosed. With regard to questions 1 and 3, no other amendments were necessary.

Review

If you would like to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact information@gcsb.govt.nz or oia.privacy@nzsis.govt.nz.

Ngā mihi


Deputy Director-General Strategic Direction
Tumuaki Tuarua



4 February 2025

Wendy McGuinness
McGuinness Institute Te Hononga Waka
gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org

Dear Wendy McGuinness

Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), received on 2 January 2025. Your full request is attached as **Appendix A**.

Information being released

As requested, responses to your request have been updated in the spreadsheet provided, which is attached to this response.

Sheet 1: Review of the 2023 GDS Index

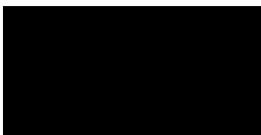
The previous publication *Our Strategy- Improving oranga for current and future generations* remains active.

Sheet 2: Potential 'new' GDSs

Two new GDSs have been identified that are in scope of the provided criteria (*Multinational Enterprises - Compliance Focus 2024* and *Offshore Compliance Focus (2022)*).

Thank you again for your request.

Yours sincerely



Domain Lead, Performance and Reporting

Our Ref DOIA 25-154

22 January 2025

Wendy McGuinness
McGuinness Institute
By email: gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org

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Wellington 6145

New Zealand

T 0800 665 463

F +64 4 472 2244

E customersupport@linz.govt.nz

W www.linz.govt.nz

Tēnā koe Wendy

Response to your official information request

Thank you for your official information request received on 2 January 2025 for certain information to support the 2024 Government Department Strategy Index.

The information requested has been provided as Appendix A, which is the excel sheet you initially provided with Toitū Te Whenua Land Information New Zealand's information amended. Note there are no new Government Department Strategies.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact ministerialsupport@linz.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 or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā




Senior Business Partner
Ministerial and Government Services

27 January 2025

DOIA25/229

Wendy McGuinness
gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org

Tēnā koe Wendy

I refer to your request received on 1 January 2025, which has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982. You requested the following information for the 2024 Government Department Strategy (GDS) Index:

- 1. Are the existing GDSs (as at 31 December 2023) still active, archived, or no longer owned and operated by this government department?*
- 2. Are there any GDSs missing from the attached Excel document? If yes, please add them to the columns highlighted in yellow in the second sheet.*

Manatū Taonga has no documents in relation to this request, as information relating to organisational strategies is set out in our Statement of Intent and Annual Report, which you have excluded from your request.

You might be interested to know that in 2024 the Ministry released a draft strategy titled *Amplify: A Creative and Cultural Strategy for New Zealand*. Consultation on this strategy was open for six weeks and closed in mid-December 2024. We are in the process of analysing these submissions before we provide advice to the Minister and develop a final draft. Manatū Taonga is aiming to release a final version of the strategy this year. You can find more information at: www.mch.govt.nz/about-us/amplify-creative-and-cultural-strategy-new-zealand.

We have not added the *Amplify* strategy to your Excel document as it remains in draft until confirmed by Cabinet.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact oia@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 via www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā




Pou Mataaho o Te Toi – Director, Office of the Secretary & Chief Executive

12 February 2025

Wendy McGuinness
McGuinness Institute Te Hononga Waka
gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org

Noa'ia Wendy

RESPONSE TO AN OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST (REF: DOIA031-2024/25)

On 19 December 2024, you contacted the Ministry for Pacific Peoples (the Ministry) requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), information relating to Government Department Strategies Index (GDS Index). I have outlined your specific request and my response below.

1. Sheet 1: Review of the 2023 GDS Index

Please update the status of each GDS in the yellow-highlighted column F:

a) Write in one of three options:

- (i) 'still active',
- (ii) 'archived' (i.e. no longer in operation), or
- (iii) 'no longer owned and operated by this government department'.

The status of each GDS operated by the Ministry has been updated on the attached spreadsheet.

The Government Department Strategy: Pacific Employment Action Plan is no longer owned and operated by the Ministry. There are no longer separate population employment action plans and now one Employment Action Plan operated by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment.

2. Sheet 2: Potential 'new' GDSs

Has the department published a new strategy document in the 2024 calendar year that may meet the GDS definition?

- a) Add the strategy's title and PDF link in columns A and B. In the rare case you know of another strategy that should have been included in the 2023 GDS Index but was not, please add a further row to this sheet and provide an explanation in Column D. We are happy to retrospectively add and even archive GDSs to ensure the GDS Index keeps an accurate record.
- b) In column C, write either:
 - (i) 'replacing an existing GDS' (and please name the GDS it replaces in column C), or
 - (ii) 'completely new strategy document'.
- c) Add any additional information in column D.



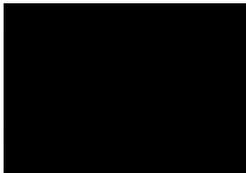
No, the Ministry has not published a new strategy document in the 2024 calendar year that meets the GDS definition. I am therefore refusing this information under section 18 (e) of the OIA as the information requested does not exist.

In line with standard OIA practice, the Ministry proactively publishes some of its responses to OIA requests. As such, this letter may be published on the Ministry for Pacific Peoples' website. Your personal details will be removed, and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you or your organisation.

Should you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact the Ministry at: oia_requests@mpp.govt.nz.

If you are dissatisfied with this response, you have the right, under section 28(3) of the OIA, to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Faiākse'ea



**Deputy Secretary
Policy & Insights**

IN-CONFIDENCE



OIA25-0003

19 February 2025

Wendy McGuinness
gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org

Dear Wendy

Thank you for your email of 2 January 2025 requesting information relating to the Ministry for Primary Industries' (MPI) Government Department Strategies (GDS). Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

On 13 February 2025, MPI extended the time limit to respond to your request to 13 March 2025.

You requested the following:

Please find attached our OIA request. It relates to the Institute's upcoming 2024 GDS Index. Please update the status of each GDS. Write in one of three options:

- (i) 'still active',*
- (ii) 'archived' (i.e. no longer in operation), or*
- (iii) 'no longer owned and operated by this government department'.*

Has the department published a new strategy document in the 2024 calendar year that may meet the GDS definition?

Please find attached, as Appendix One, an updated list of MPI's current Departmental Strategies. There have been no additional strategy documents published in 2024 that meets the GDS definition. Therefore, this part of your request is declined pursuant to section 18(e) of the OIA as the information does not exist.

On 3 January 2025, you further requested:

In addition to the information requested in the two attachments we have two outstanding question that came up during our consolidation process for the 2023 GDS Index.

In the 2023 GDS Index, the Wilding Conifer Management Strategy (December 2014) was treated as jointly held by MPI and DOC. However, later OIA correspondence suggested that MPI was the lead agency.

Question 1: Should this strategy be treated as:

- 1. jointly held between MPI and DOC, or*
- 2. solely held by MPI as the lead agency.*

In the 2023 GDS Index, Hector's and Maui Dolphin Threat Management Plan 2020 (December 2021) was treated as solely held by DOC as DOC did not list it as jointly held in their OIA response (19/02/24). However, MPI included it as a GDS they jointly hold with DOC in their OIA response (25/03/24).

Question 2: Should this strategy be treated as:

- 1. jointly held between DOC and MPI, or*
- 2. solely held by DOC as the lead agency.*

Please note that the New Zealand Wilding Conifer Management Strategy was a collaborative effort developed under the leadership of the New Zealand Wilding Conifer Management Group, representing a wide range of stakeholders in wilding pine control. It is not “solely held” by MPI but provides strategic direction for all parties involved in the control of wilding conifers in Aotearoa. It is the guiding document for the National Wilding Conifer Control Programme established in 2016, which is led by MPI. The strategy will be reviewed in 2025.

We can also confirm that the Hectors and Maui Dolphin Threat Management Plan 2020 is jointly held between MPI and DOC.

Should you have any concerns with this response, I would encourage you to raise these with the Ministry for Primary Industries at Official.InformationAct@mpi.govt.nz. Alternatively, you are advised of your right to also raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. Contact details are: Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143 or at info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Yours sincerely



Director, Strategy, Governance, and Performance



13 February 2025

Wendy McGuinness

gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org

Official information request

Our ref: R00697

Tēnā koe Wendy

Thank you for your Official Information Act (OIA) request on 2 January 2025, seeking information and input from the Ministry for Regulation (Ministry) into the *2023 Government Department Strategies (GDS) Index* and the *2024 GDS Index*. Your request is as follows:

“Please find attached our OIA request. It relates to the Institute’s upcoming 2024 GDS Index and consists of two attachments:

- *Attachment 1: A letter outlining what information we are requesting and why.*
- *Attachment 2: An Excel consisting of two sheets for you to update yellow-highlighted columns.*

Please could you review the two sheets in the attached Excel to answer these questions:

Sheet 1: Review of the 2023 GDS Index

Please update the status of each GDS in the yellow-highlighted column F:

1. Write in one of three options: (i) ‘still active’, (ii) ‘archived’ (i.e. no longer in operation), or (iii) ‘no longer owned and operated by this government department’. If this is the case, please say who it has been transferred to (e.g. your comment might be ‘transferred from MOH to Health NZ in March 2024’).

Sheet 2: Potential ‘new’ GDSs

Has the department published a new strategy document in the 2024 calendar year that may meet the GDS definition? (Find the definition and learn more about the Index on the next page.)

If so, please add a new row – one for each strategy document – and complete the yellow-highlighted columns A to D:

- 1. Add the strategy’s title and PDF link in columns A and B. In the rare case you know of another strategy that should have been included in the 2023 GDS Index but was not, please add a further row to this sheet and provide an explanation in Column D. We are happy to retrospectively add and even archive GDSs to ensure the GDS Index keeps an accurate record.*

2. In column C, write either: (i) 'replacing an existing GDS' (and please also name the GDS it replaces in column C), or (ii) 'completely new strategy document'.
3. Add any additional information in column D."

On 22 January 2025, we contacted you to seek clarification on the definition of 'government department strategy' for the purposes of the GDS Index. You replied on 29 January 2025, and indicated:

"We would welcome any suggestions on how we can make criterion 7 clearer as I can see how it could be confusing.

If you could clarify whether any departments are still publishing four-year plans, that would be great."

Response to your request

As you will note, **Sheet 1** regarding a review of the 2023 GDS information is not applicable to the Ministry as it was established on 1 March 2024.

Regarding **Sheet 2** on any new strategy document for calendar year 2024, while we do have some strategy documents, such as the "strategy on a page" published on our website, we do not have a document that meets the seven criteria outlined in your request (as clarified by you on 29 January 2025).

We therefore refuse your request under section 18(g)(i) of the OIA as we do not hold the information you requested, and we have no grounds to believe that said information is held by another department or agency.

Feedback on recommendation 2 in the 2023 GDS Index Handbook

You mentioned in your email of 2 January 2025 that recommendation 2 in the *2023 GDS Index Handbook* suggests that the Ministry for Regulation maintain a central register of GDSs.

This is not aligned with the Ministry's role and so we do not agree with this recommendation. The Ministry for Regulation has been established to improve the quality of regulation in New Zealand, which is a very different function from one relating to the quality of other Government agencies' strategies. Accordingly, we do not have a mandate to review or comment on those strategies, nor to maintain a central register of them.

Criterion 7 in the GDS definition

In your email of 29 January 2025, you invited suggestions on how to make criterion 7 in the GDS definition clearer. It may interest you to note that sections 38-42 of the [Public Finance Act 1989](#) (PFA) were updated to require government departments to provide information on strategic intentions. The term "statement of intent" is no longer used by government departments as these have been repealed in the context of the PFA. Crown entities, on the other hand, are still required under sections 138-149 of the [Crown Entities Act 2004](#) to produce a statement of intent.

You also raised a query on whether any departments are still publishing four-year plans. We refer you to [The Treasury webpage on strategic thinking and planning](#), which contains references to Cabinet's decision to rescind the requirement for departments to produce four-year plans.

Right of review

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 we may publish this response (with your details removed) on the Ministry for Regulation website.

Ngā mihi



Head of Ministerial Services
Ministry for Regulation



24 January 2025

OIAD-1433

Wendy McGuinness
gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org

Tēnā koe Wendy

Thank you for your email of 2 January 2025 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) about the Ministry for the Environment's (the Ministry's): Government Departmental Strategies (GDSs):

Sheet 1: Review of the 2023 GDS Index

Please update the status of each GDS in the yellow-highlighted column F:

- (i) Write in one of three options:
'still active',
- (ii) 'archived' (i.e. no longer in operation), or
- (iii) 'no longer owned and operated by this government department'. If this is the case, please say who it has been transferred to (e.g. your comment might be 'transferred from MOH to Health NZ in March 2024').

Sheet 2: Potential 'new' GDSs

Has the department published a new strategy document in the 2024 calendar year that may meet the GDS definition? (Find the definition and learn more about the Index on the next page.) If so, please add a new row – one for each strategy document – and complete the yellow-highlighted columns A to D:

1. Add the strategy's title and PDF link in columns A and B. In the rare case you know of another strategy that should have been included in the 2023 GDS Index but was not, please add a further row to this sheet and provide an explanation in Column D. We are happy to retrospectively add and even archive GDSs to ensure the GDS Index keeps an accurate record.
2. In column C, write either:
 - (i) 'replacing an existing GDS' (and please also name the GDS it replaces in column C), or
 - (ii) 'completely new strategy document'.
3. Add any additional information in column D.

The Ministry has reviewed the Microsoft Excel spreadsheet that you have provided and provided a response in Column F for each Government Department Strategy (GDS) allocated to the Ministry in Sheet 1.

We have also provided you with some contextual notes for some of the strategies in Column T. Please note that we are of the view that two of the strategies do not meet your definition of a GDS and should not be included in the GDS Index.

I have added two new strategies that the Ministry is responsible for in Sheet 2. These are "New Zealand's second emissions reduction plan – Tā Aotearoa mahere whakaheke tukunga tuarua" and "Responding to a changing climate: The Government's climate strategy".

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman of my response relating to this request, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Please note that due to the public interest in our work the Ministry for the Environment publishes responses to requests for official information on our [OIA responses page](#) shortly after the response has been sent. If you have any queries about this, please feel free to contact our Ministerial Services team: ministerials@mfe.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely



Manager – Ministerial Services
Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao

13 February 2025

Wendy McGuinness
Chief Executive
gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org

Tēnā koe Wendy

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

I refer to your official information request of 2 January 2025 for:

- *Sheet 1: Review of the 2023 GDS Index*
- *Please update the status of each GDS in the yellow-highlighted column F:*
- *Sheet 2: Potential 'new' GDSs*
- *Has the department published a new strategy document in the 2024 calendar year that may meet the GDS definition? (Find the definition and learn more about the Index on the next page.) If so, please add a new row – one for each strategy document – and complete the yellow-highlighted columns A to D:*

The information you have requested is enclosed in the Excel sheet attached to this letter.

The Ministry for Women's 2023 GDS Index response, the Te Mahere Whai Mahi Wāhine Women's Employment Action Plan, has now been archived.

The Ministry is currently updating its work programme to align with its new Statement of Intent 2024 – 2028. There are no strategy documents that the Ministry has published in the 2024 calendar year that meet the GDS definition.

Official Information Act responses

Please note that this response, with your personal details redacted, may be published on the Ministry's website. If you have any concerns or comments related to this, please let us know by emailing ministerialservicing@women.govt.nz, within two weeks of the date of this letter.

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.

Nāku noa, nā



Deputy Secretary, Organisational Performance and Services



27 February 2025

Ref: DOIA-REQ-0008081-Wendy McGuinness

Wendy McGuinness
Chief Executive
McGuinness Institute Te Hononga Waka
Email: wmcg@mcguinnessinstitute.org

Tēnā koe Wendy McGuinness

Thank you for your email of 2 January 2025 to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), update of information for the *2024 Government Department Strategy Index*.

Please find the spreadsheet attached with MBIE's entries and amendments.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, or if you require any further assistance, please contact OIA@mbie.govt.nz.

Please note that this response and enclosed documents, with your personal details removed, may be published on the MBIE website: www.mbie.govt.nz/about/open-government-and-official-information/published-official-information-act-requests.

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.

Nāku noa, nā



General Manager - Communications Design & Ministerial Services
Strategy & Assurance

Defence House
34 Bowen Street
Wellington, New Zealand

P +64 (04) 496 0999
E info@defence.govt.nz

PO Box 12703
Molesworth Street
Wellington 6144, New Zealand

www.defence.govt.nz



**MANATŪ KAUPAPA
WAONGA**
NEW ZEALAND
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

17 January 2025

Wendy McGuinness
Chief Executive
McGuinness Institute Te Hononga Waka
gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org

Dear Wendy

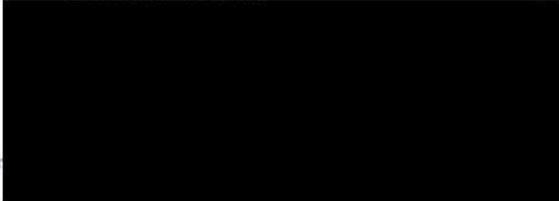
RESPONSE TO YOUR OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

Thank you for your email of 2 January 2025, in which you requested, pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), information regarding government department strategies.

Attached is a populated Excel document confirming the previously-advised Ministry of Defence strategies. No new strategies apply from 2024.

Under section 28(3) of the Act you have the right to request the Ombudsman to investigate and review this response.

Yours sincerely


Deputy Secretary, Defence Policy and Planning

Encl: Excel file: *17. Ministry of Defence – completed*



Scan for
NZSL name

 **Whaikaha**
Ministry of Disabled People



OIA3798

Wendy McGuinness
gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org

13 February 2024

Tēnā koe Wendy

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request of 2 January 2024, to the Ministry of Disabled People - Whaikaha (Whaikaha), regarding strategic documents.

Whaikaha is a relatively new Ministry and was formally established on 1 July 2022 as a departmental agency hosted by the Ministry of Social Development (MSD). Following an independent review in 2024, Whaikaha became a standalone ministry on 1 December 2024.

The following strategic documents are now owned by Whaikaha:

- New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016 -2026
- Disability Action Plan 2019-2023
- New Zealand Sign Language Strategy 2018 – 2023
- Whāia Te Ao Mārama 2018-2022 - the Māori Disability Action Plan

Whaikaha has no new strategic documents to add to the 2024 GDS Index at this time.

The Atoatoali’o – National Pacific Disability approach 2025-2029 will be available in the coming months. A link can be provided to you once this is available.

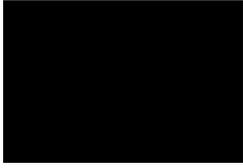
Work is currently underway to refresh the New Zealand Sign Language Strategy and the New Zealand Disability Strategy (2016-2026).

Please note, as part of its commitment towards increasing transparency, Whaikaha intends to make the information contained in this letter available to the wider public. Whaikaha will do this by publishing this letter on our website. Your contact details will be removed prior to release.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, or if you are seeking any further information, please contact OIA_requests@whaikaha.govt.nz.



Ngā mihi nui



Manager, Ministerial and Executive Services



13/02/2025

Wendy McGuinness
The Chief Executive
McGuinness Institute Te Hononga Waka
wmcg@mcguinnessinstitute.org

Tēnā koe Wendy

OIA: 1321756 Government Department Strategies Index (2024 GDS Index)

Thank you for your email of 2 January 2025 to the Ministry of Education (the Ministry) requesting the following information:

Sheet 1: Review of the 2023 GDS Index

Please update the status of each GDS in the yellow-highlighted column F:

1. *Write in one of three options:*
 - i. *'still active'*,
 - ii. *'archived' (i.e. no longer in operation), or*
 - iii. *'no longer owned and operated by this government department'. If this is the case, please say who it has been transferred to (e.g. your comment might be 'transferred from MOH to Health NZ in March 2024').*

Sheet 2: Potential 'new' GDSs

Has the department published a new strategy document in the 2024 calendar year that may meet the GDS definition? (Find the definition and learn more about the Index on the next page.) If so, please add a new row – one for each strategy document – and complete the yellow-highlighted columns A to D:

2. *Add the strategy's title and PDF link in columns A and B. In the rare case you know of another strategy that should have been included in the 2023 GDS Index but was not, please add a further row to this sheet and provide an explanation in Column D. We are happy to retrospectively add and even archive GDSs to ensure the GDS Index keeps an accurate record.*
3. *In column C, write either:*
 - i. *'replacing an existing GDS' (and please also name the GDS it replaces in column C), or*
 - ii. *'completely new strategy document'.*
3. *Add any additional information in column D.*

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

We have reviewed the 2023 DGS Index as requested in **part one** of your request and are releasing this to you in the Excel spreadsheet provided, as requested (labelled **Ministry of Education table**).

We have not identified any potential 'new' GDSs in scope of **part two** of your request.

Please note, we may publish this response on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed.



Hautū (Taupua) | Deputy Secretary (Acting)
Te Pou Rangatōpū | Corporate



New Zealand Ministry of
Foreign Affairs and Trade
Manatū Aorere

21 February 2025

195 Lambton Quay
Private Bag 18-901
Wellington 6160
New Zealand

T +64 4 439 8000
F +64 4 472 9596

OIA 29928

Wendy McGuinness
gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org

Tēnā koe Wendy McGuinness

Thank you for your email of 3 February 2025 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

Please could you review the two sheets in the attached Excel to answer these questions:

Sheet 1: Review of the 2023 GDS Index

Please update the status of each GDS in the yellow-highlighted column F:

1. Write in one of three options:

'still active',

(ii) 'archived' (i.e. no longer in operation), or

(iii) 'no longer owned and operated by this government department'. If this is the case, please say who it has been transferred to (e.g. your comment might be 'transferred from MOH to Health NZ in March 2024').

Sheet 2: Potential 'new' GDSs

Has the department published a new strategy document in the 2024 calendar year that may meet the GDS definition? (Find the definition and learn more about the Index on the next page.) If so, please add a new row – one for each strategy document – and complete the yellow-highlighted columns A to D:

Add the strategy's title and PDF link in columns A and B. In the rare case you know of another strategy that should have been included in the 2023 GDS Index but was not, please add a further row to this sheet and provide an explanation in Column D. We are happy to retrospectively add and even archive GDSs to ensure the GDS Index keeps an accurate record.

In column C, write either:

(i) 'replacing an existing GDS' (and please also name the GDS it replaces in column C), or

(ii) 'completely new strategy document'.

Add any additional information in column D.

Please find the information you have requested attached. We have not withheld any information.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Therefore, our response to your request (with your personal information removed) may be published on the Ministry website:

www.mfat.govt.nz/en/about-us/contact-us/official-information-act-responses/

If you have any questions about this decision, you can contact us by email at: DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision by contacting www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Thursday, February 20, 2025 at 10:49:37 New Zealand Daylight Time

Subject: RE: FW: Response to your request for official information (ref: H2025059078) CRM:0449189
Date: Wednesday, 19 February 2025 at 2:41:15 PM New Zealand Daylight Time
From: [REDACTED]
To: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
Attachments: image.png, image.png, image.png, image.png, image.png, image.png, H2025059078 spreadsheet_final.xlsx

Kia ora Wendy

Thank you for your follow up correspondence and our apologies for the delay. Please find attached the remaining requested information.

Should you require anything further, please do not hesitate to get in touch via oiagr@health.govt.nz

Ngā mihi

OIA Services Team

[Manatū Hauora information releases](#)



Subject: Response to your request for official information (ref: H2025059078) CRM:0449189
Date: Tuesday, 28 January 2025 at 1:10:58 PM New Zealand Daylight Time
From: [REDACTED]
To: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
Attachments: image.png, image.png, image.png, image.png, image.png, image.png

Tēnā koe Wendy

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to the Ministry of Health – Manatū Hauora (the Ministry) on 2 January 2025. You requested:

In your OIA response for the 2023 GDS Index (27/03/24), you noted that two of the GDSs listed had been transferred to Te Whatu Ora – Health New Zealand (Health NZ) and one was jointly held with Health NZ. However, Health NZ is not currently listed as a government department according to Schedule 2 of the Public Service Act 2020.

The related strategies are:

- 1. Palliative Care Strategy (February, 2001)*
- 2. Planned Care Strategic Approach: 2019–2024 (September, 2019)*
- 3. Te Mana Ola: The Pacific Health Strategy (July, 2023)*

Question: Please could you confirm whether the above three strategies are now:

- 1. solely held by MOH,*
- 2. archived, or*
- 3. transferred to another government department (please state the department and date transferred).*

The information you seek in relation to the above mentioned strategies is outlined in the following table:

	Lead agency	Other information
<i>Palliative Care Strategy (February, 2001)</i>	Health New Zealand – Te Whatu Ora (hnzoia@tewhatuora.govt.nz)	Following the 2022 health and disability reforms, both strategies transferred to Health New Zealand. Information on the strategies are publicly available at the respective links: <ul style="list-style-type: none">The New Zealand Palliative Care StrategyPlanned Care Strategic Approach
<i>Planned Care Strategic Approach: 2019–2024 (September, 2019)</i>		
<i>Te Mana Ola: The Pacific Health Strategy (July, 2023)</i>	Ministry of Health – Manatū Hauora	Further information on Te Mana Ola is publicly available here: www.health.govt.nz/strategies-initiatives/health-strategies/te-mana-ola-the-pacific-health-strategy

I trust this information fulfils your request. If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request with us, including this decision, please feel free to contact the OIA Services Team on: oiagr@health.govt.nz.

Under section 28(3) of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi

OIA Services Team

[Manatū Hauora information releases](#)



Wednesday, January 29, 2025 at 12:23:22 New Zealand Daylight Time

Subject: RE: OIA 2025/01 - 2024 GDS Index (22 - HUD) CRM:0201585
Date: Wednesday, 29 January 2025 at 8:27:22 AM New Zealand Daylight Time
From: [REDACTED]
To: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
Attachments: Wendy McGuinness OIA Excel final.xlsx

Tēnā koe Wendy,

Thank you for your email of 07 January 2024 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Thank you for your help in providing the data for the *2023 GDS Index*. You will be pleased to note that your strategy on Māori Housing was ranked 8th= out of 230 GDSs for transparency. The Index includes a Handbook, a Methodology and an Analysis of Climate Change – learn more about the GDS Index on our website [here](#). Given how challenging it was for some departments to respond last year, we have decided to quickly prepare a *2024 GDS Index*.

Please find attached our OIA request. It relates to the Institute's upcoming *2024 GDS Index* and consists of two attachments:

- Attachment 1: A letter outlining what information we are requesting and why.
- Attachment 2: An Excel consisting of two sheets for you to update yellow-highlighted columns.

Please find attached our response.

As part of our ongoing commitment to openness and transparency, the Ministry proactively releases information and documents that may be of interest to the public. As such, this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on our website.

Ngā mihi

Government Services
Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga – Ministry of Housing and Urban Development



12 February 2025

Wendy McGuinness
gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org

Ref: OIA 118689

Tēnā koe Wendy

Official Information Act request: Government Department Strategies Index

Thank you for your email of 2 January 2025 requesting for the Ministry of Justice (the Ministry), to provide information regarding the 2024 Government Department Strategies (GDS) Index. Your request is being managed in accordance with the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

On 9 January 2025, the Ministry contacted you advising that your request had been partially transferred to Te Puna Aonui, and that the Ministry would be responding to the following part of your request:

Has the department published a new strategy document in the 2024 calendar year that may meet the GDS definition?

In response to your request, I can advise that there have been no new strategy documents published by the Ministry in 2024. Therefore, I am refusing your request under section 18(g)(i) of the Act as the information requested is not held by the Ministry.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website at: [Official Information Act responses | New Zealand Ministry of Justice](#)

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act. The Office of the Ombudsman may be contacted by email to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phone on 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted name]

Manager, System Performance and Monitoring

Monday, February 17, 2025 at 09:29:05 New Zealand Daylight Time

Subject: 2024 GDS Index
Date: Friday, 14 February 2025 at 3:47:35 PM New Zealand Daylight Time
From: [REDACTED]
To: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
CC: TPA Min Services <minservices@tepunaaonui.govt.nz>
Attachments: image002.png

Tēnā koe Wendy,

Further to your query below, the Ministry of Justice asked [Te Puna Aonui](#) to respond to your query about whether Te Aorerekura is still active. I apologise for not doing so earlier.

I can confirm that [Te Aorerekura National Strategy to Eliminate Family Violence and Sexual Violence](#) is a 25-year strategy.

Ngā mihi

Ministerial Services

e minservices@tepunaaonui.govt.nz

w tepunaaonui.govt.nz/





29 January 2025

File Ref: OIA 50340

Wendy McGuinness
gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org

Tēnā koe Wendy

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your information request dated 2 January 2025. You asked for the following information:

“Please find attached our OIA request. It relates to the Institute’s upcoming 2024 GDS Index and consists of two attachments:

- *Attachment 1: A letter outlining what information we are requesting and why.*
- *Attachment 2: An Excel consisting of two sheets for you to update yellow-highlighted columns.*

Sheet 1: Review of the 2023 GDS Index

Please update the status of each GDS in the yellow-highlighted column F:

1. *Write in one of three options:*

‘still active’,

(ii) ‘archived’ (i.e. no longer in operation), or

(iii) ‘no longer owned and operated by this government department’. If this is the case, please say who it has been transferred to (e.g. your comment might be ‘transferred from MOH to Health NZ in March 2024’).

Sheet 2: Potential ‘new’ GDSs

Has the department published a new strategy document in the 2024 calendar year that may meet the GDS definition? (Find the definition and learn more about the Index on the next page.) If so, please add a new row – one for each strategy document – and complete the yellow-highlighted columns A to D:

1. *Add the strategy’s title and PDF link in columns A and B. In the rare case you know of another strategy that should have been included in the 2023 GDS Index but was not, please add a further row to this sheet and provide an explanation in Column D. We are happy to retrospectively add and even archive GDSs to ensure the GDS Index keeps an accurate record.*
2. *In column C, write either:*

(i) 'replacing an existing GDS' (and please also name the GDS it replaces in column C), or

(ii) 'completely new strategy document'.

1. *Add any additional information in column D.*

We would appreciate a quick turnaround on this OIA request. This includes: (i) an immediate acknowledgement and (ii) a detailed response within the OIA request timeframe. FYI, the Institute keeps a record of all responses (with officers' names redacted) on our website here".

Your request has been considered in accordance with the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

Three Strategies have been identified in scope of your request. Answers to the questions above that relate to these documents have been provided as Attachment 1, in your 'Draft Master Excel Version 147' template as requested.

I trust my response satisfies your request.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this response. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that Te Puni Kōkiri publishes some of its OIA responses on its website, after the response is sent to the requester. The responses published are those that are considered to have a high level of public interest. We will not publish your name, address or contact details.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request with us, including this decision, please feel free to contact us at oja@tpk.govt.nz.

Ngā mihi



Hautū, Te Puni Rautaki | Deputy Secretary, Strategy



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT**
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

5 February 2025

Wendy McGuinness

gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org

Tēnā koe Wendy McGuinness

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 2 January 2025, requesting information to assist with an update of the McGuinness Institute publication, 2024 GDS Index.

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Please find my decision on your request set out below.

Please find attached a copy of the spreadsheet you sent to us for update. You will see the appropriate business unit within the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry), has reviewed your advice and updated the status of our strategies. The attached spreadsheet contains our feedback.

To further assist you, please see our following comments.

There have been some changes since last year which are outlined below:

- Now that Whaikaha is a standalone agency, they are responding to the OIA themselves regarding their strategies – they will no longer be under the Ministry.
- The 'Older Workers Employment Action Plan' is no longer in use and has not been replaced.
- The 'Rautaki Hangarau – Technology Strategy 2022' is no longer in use but has been replaced with a new Technology Strategy with the same name updated in 2024.
- The 'Employment and Social Outcomes Investment Strategy 2022-2025' is no longer in use and has been replaced with the 'Employment Investment Framework for 2024/25'.
- The 'Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy' is no longer in use and has been replaced with the 'Child and Youth Strategy'. Please note, at the time of last year's request the 'Child Youth and Wellbeing Strategy' sat with the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet but was transferred to the Ministry later in 2024. This is why the 'Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy' was not included in last year's OIA response.

A few things to note:

- We were not aware of the 'Carers' Strategy' (added to tab 2) when we responded to this OIA request last year but have confirmed that it should be included in the GDS Index.
- Last year we had included the 'Better Later Life He Oranga Kaumātua Action plan 2021 to 2024' in our response as one that should be included in the GDS index but was not included. This should be in the GDS Index and has been added to tab 2.
- The red edits in tab 1 are corrections to titles as confirmed by the business.

I will be publishing this decision letter, with your personal details deleted, on the Ministry's website in due course.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with my decision on your request, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui

pp.



General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services

OC250001

3 February 2025

Wendy McGuinness
Chief Executive
McGuinness Institute Te Hononga Waka
gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org

Tēnā koe Wendy,

I refer to your email dated 2 January 2025, requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

“review the two sheets in the attached Excel to answer these questions:

Sheet 1: Review of the 2023 GDS Index

Please update the status of each GDS in the yellow-highlighted column F:

1. *Write in one of three options:*

(i) *‘still active’*,

(ii) *‘archived’ (i.e. no longer in operation), or*

(iii) *‘no longer owned and operated by this government department’. If this is the case, please say who it has been transferred to (e.g. your comment might be ‘transferred from MOH to Health NZ in March 2024’).*

Sheet 2: Potential ‘new’ GDSs

Has the department published a new strategy document in the 2024 calendar year that may meet the GDS definition? (Find the definition and learn more about the Index on the next page.) If so, please add a new row – one for each strategy document – and complete the yellow-highlighted columns A to D:

1. *Add the strategy’s title and PDF link in columns A and B. In the rare case you know of another strategy that should have been included in the 2023 GDS Index but was not, please add a further row to this sheet and provide an explanation in Column D. We are happy to retrospectively add and even archive GDSs to ensure the GDS Index keeps an accurate record.*

2. *In column C, write either:*

(i) *‘replacing an existing GDS’ (and please also name the GDS it replaces in column C), or*

(ii) *‘completely new strategy document’.*

3. *Add any additional information in column D.”*

As requested, we have updated an excel file provided by you. You will note that we have three new strategies that fall within the scope of second part of your request.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of this response by the Ombudsman, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on the Ombudsman's website www.ombudsman.parliament.nz

The Ministry publishes our Official Information Act responses, and the information contained in our reply to you may be published on the Ministry's website. Before publishing we will remove any personal or identifiable information.

Nāku noa, nā

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Manager, Accountability and Correspondence

Friday, January 24, 2025 at 12:41:30 New Zealand Daylight Time

Subject: [UNCLASSIFIED] RE: OIA 2025/01 - 2024 GDS Index (27 - NZCS) - New Zealand Customs Service
Date: Friday, 24 January 2025 at 11:22:16 AM New Zealand Daylight Time
From: [REDACTED]
To: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
CC: OIA <OIA@customs.govt.nz>
Attachments: 27. New Zealand Customs Service Update - OIA 25-003.xlsx

UNCLASSIFIED

[Customs reference OIA 25-003]

Kia ora Wendy

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 for the New Zealand Customs Service current strategies for the the Institute's upcoming *2024 GDS Index*.

Please find attached the completed response excel spreadsheet, Tab 1 has been updated, for Tab 2, Customs does not have any '*Potential new GDSs*' to report.

Ngā mihi

[REDACTED] Manager, Correspondence, Reviews and Ministerial Servicing,
International and Governance | New Zealand Customs Service | Cell Phone [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

13 February 2025

Wendy McGuinness
gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org

Tēnā koe Wendy

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request of 2 January 2025 to both the Government Communications Security Bureau (GCSB) and New Zealand Security Intelligence Service (NZSIS), seeking the following information:

1. *Are the existing GDSs (as at 31 December 2021) still active?*
2. *Are there any GDSs that are missing from the attached document? If yes please add to the Excel document attached.*
3. *Are there any GDSs that are included in the attached document that have been recently archived (and therefore need to be removed from our list)?*

Response

We have chosen to provide a combined response as our agencies share some joint enabling functions relevant to your queries. With regard to question 2, the following additions have been made:

- GCSB Strategy 2023-27
<https://www.gcsb.govt.nz/assets/GCSB-Documents/GCSB-Strategy-2023-2027.pdf>
- NZSIS Strategy 2024-29
<https://www.nzsis.govt.nz/assets/NZSIS-Documents/NZSIS-Strategy-2024-2029.pdf>

Please find an updated spreadsheet enclosed. With regard to questions 1 and 3, no other amendments were necessary.

Review

If you would like to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact information@gcsb.govt.nz or oia.privacy@nzsis.govt.nz.

Ngā mihi


Deputy Director-General Strategic Direction
Tumuaki Tuarua



5 February 2025

Wendy McGuinness
wmcg@mcguinnessinstitute.org

Tēnā koe Wendy

Thank you for your email of 2 January 2025 to Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children (Oranga Tamariki), requesting information relating to government strategies. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

You have requested:

We believe it is important that government department strategies are transparent and visible. Given how challenging it was for some departments to respond to our request last year, we have decided to quickly prepare a 2024 GDS Index for publication in early 2025.

Please find attached our OIA request. It relates to the Institute's upcoming 2024 GDS Index and consists of two attachments:

- *Attachment 1: A letter outlining what information we are requesting and why.*
- *Attachment 2: An Excel consisting of two sheets for you to update yellow-highlighted columns.*

Please find attached an Excel spreadsheet containing the information you have requested, regarding Oranga Tamariki strategies. Please note, we have noted the responsible agencies as some of the strategies are no longer led by Oranga Tamariki. We have also included information on the Oranga Tamariki 'Our Strategy' and Pacific Strategy as GDSs that were not listed in your 2023 Index.

I trust you find this information useful. Should you have any concerns with this response, I would encourage you to raise them with Oranga Tamariki. Alternatively, you are advised of your right to also raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. Information about this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by contacting them on 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



General Manager Public Information and Ministerial Services



Te Kawa Mataaho
Public Service Commission

13 February 2025

Wendy McGuinness
gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org

Dear Wendy

Official Information Request
Our Ref: PSCR 2025-0001

I refer to your official information request received on 2 January 2025 for:

Sheet 1: Review of the 2023 GDS Index

Please update the status of each GDS in the yellow-highlighted column F:

1. Write in one of three options:

‘still active’,

(ii) ‘archived’ (i.e. no longer in operation), or

(iii) ‘no longer owned and operated by this government department’. If this is the case, please say who it has been transferred to (e.g. your comment might be ‘transferred from MOH to Health NZ in March 2024’).

Sheet 2: Potential ‘new’ GDSs

Has the department published a new strategy document in the 2024 calendar year that may meet the GDS definition? (Find the definition and learn more about the Index on the next page.) If so, please add a new row – one for each strategy document – and complete the yellow-highlighted columns A to D:

3. Add the strategy’s title and PDF link in columns A and B. In the rare case you know of another strategy that should have been included in the 2023 GDS Index but was not, please add a further row to this sheet and provide an explanation in Column D. We are happy to retrospectively add and even archive GDSs to ensure the GDS Index keeps an accurate record.

4. In column C, write either:

(i) ‘replacing an existing GDS’ (and please also name the GDS it replaces in column C), or

(ii) ‘completely new strategy document’.

2. Add any additional information in column D.

Government Department Strategies

Please find listed in the table below, the Government Department Strategies (GDSs) relevant to the Public Service Commission. We have also provided the requested information in the attached excel spreadsheet you provided. The Commission has not published any new strategy document in the 2024 calendar year that may meet the GDS definition.

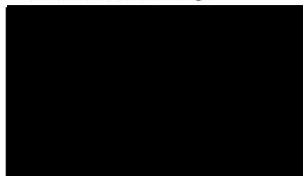
Item	Government Department Strategy	Status
1	Kia Toipoto – Public Service Action Plan	Still active
2	Te Aorerekura – The Enduring Spirit of Affection: The national strategy to eliminate family violence and sexual violence	No longer owned and operated by this government department. The Public Service Commissioner ceased being a member of Te Puna Aonui on 1 July 2023. The other agencies who jointly held this GDS would be best placed to confirm who holds this strategy.
3	Fourth National Action Plan – Te Tuawhā o ngā Mahere Mahi ā-Motu	Still active
4	Te Rautaki Ārahi i te Ratonga Tūmatanui o Aotearoa – The Leadership Strategy for New Zealand’s Public Service	Still active

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Enquiries@publicservice.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 or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that we intend to publish this letter (with your personal details removed) and enclosed documents on the Commission’s website.

Yours sincerely



**Manager – Ministerial and Executive Services
Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission**



5 February 2025

McGuinness Institute

By email to: gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org

Attention: Wendy McGuinness

Request for information - Government Department Strategies Index (CON0014424)

We refer to your email dated 2 January 2025 in which you advised that the McGuinness Institute has published a 2023 'Government Department Strategies Index' listing NZ government department strategies (GDS's) in operation. For the purposes of a 2024 update, you have asked us to review the Index record in relation to the Serious Fraud Office (**SFO**) and advise any new strategies, or any existing strategies that are no longer in operation.

We have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (**OIA**).

Decision and response

For the purposes of our review, you advised that the Institute has defined a GDS for the purpose of the Index as:

- be a publicly available document that is published by a government department
- be a public-facing document that is written for the public to read
- be an externally facing document (i.e. not written for internal management purposes)
- be a strategic document that contains long-term thinking (i.e. it sets out the approach (the means) and the purpose (the ends) of the strategy)
- be a national document (i.e. it excludes local and regional strategies)
- be a document that looks out at least two years or more, and
- not be a corporate document (i.e. not a statement of intent, a four-year plan or an annual report).

To answer your questions:

1. The Index does not list any existing GDS for the SFO, so there are none to confirm as being active, archived, or no longer owned by the SFO.
2. We have not issued any new strategies which meet your definition above.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where there is a broader public interest. Our response to your request may be published at sfo.govt.nz, with any personal information removed.

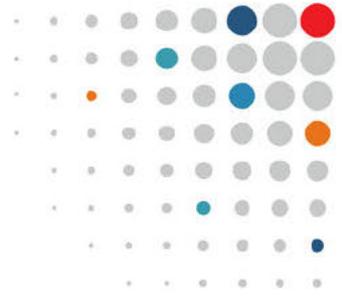
Nāku noa, nā | Yours sincerely

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.A small black rectangular redaction box covering the name of the Principal Legal Advisor.

Principal Legal Advisor – Corporate
Serious Fraud Office | Te Tari Hara Tāware



**Social Investment Agency
Toi Hau Tāngata**



22 January 2025

32. Social Investment Agency

File Ref: 2025026

Wendy McGuinness
McGuinness Institute Te Horonga Waka
By email: gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org

Tēnā koe Wendy

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 request, received on 2 January 2025. You requested:

We believe it is important that government department strategies are transparent and visible. Given how challenging it was for some departments to respond to our request last year, we have decided to quickly prepare a 2024 GDS Index for publication in early 2025.

Please find attached our OIA request. It relates to the Institute's upcoming 2024 GDS Index and consists of two attachments:

- *Attachment 1: A letter outlining what information we are requesting and why.*
- *Attachment 2: An Excel consisting of two sheets for you to update yellow-highlighted columns.*

Please find attached the completed Excel you have requested, noting that the Social Investment Agency (the Agency) does not hold any strategy documents that meet the criteria of your GDS Index. I am therefore refusing your request under section 18(e) of the Act *that the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.*

Although this document does not meet the criteria of your request, you may be interested to know the Agency has recently published its Strategic Intentions 2024/25 – 2028/29, which you can find here: <https://www.sia.govt.nz/assets/Document-Library/SIA-Strategic-intentions-2024-2029-FINAL.pdf>.

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have a right to seek an investigation or review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

Manager, Office of the Chief Executive

13 February 2025

Wendy McGuinness
Chief Executive
McGuinness Institute Te Hononga Waka

By email: gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org

Tēnā koe Wendy

Official Information Act (OIA) request: 2024 GDS Index

On 8 January 2025, you contacted Stats NZ requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *Thank you for your help in providing the data for the 2023 GDS Index. The Index includes a Handbook, a Methodology and an Analysis of Climate Change – learn more about the GDS Index on our website here. You may be interested to know that the 2023 GDS Index Handbook ranks the 230 GDSs in operation by transparency (see pages 272-284).*

We believe it is important that government department strategies are transparent and visible. Given how challenging it was for some departments to respond to our request last year, we have decided to quickly prepare a 2024 GDS Index for publication in early 2025.

Please find attached our OIA request. It relates to the Institute's upcoming 2024 GDS Index and consists of two attachments:

*Attachment 1: A letter outlining what information we are requesting and why.
Attachment 2: An Excel consisting of two sheets for you to update yellow-highlighted columns.*

Please could you review the two sheets in the attached Excel to answer these questions:

Sheet 1: Review of the 2023 GDS Index

Please update the status of each GDS in the yellow-highlighted column F:

1. *Write in one of three options:
(i) 'still active',*

info@stats.govt.nz
toll-free 0508 525 525
stats.govt.nz

- (ii) 'archived' (i.e. no longer in operation), or
- (iii) 'no longer owned and operated by this government department'. If this is the case, please say

who it has been transferred to (e.g. your comment might be 'transferred from MOH to Health NZ in March 2024').

Sheet 2: Potential 'new' GDSs

Has the department published a new strategy document in the 2024 calendar year that may meet the GDS definition? (Find the definition and learn more about the Index on the next page.) If so, please add a new row – one for each strategy document – and complete the yellow-highlighted columns A to D:

1. Add the strategy's title and PDF link in columns A and B. In the rare case you know of another strategy that should have been included in the 2023 GDS Index but was not, please add a further row to this sheet and provide an explanation in Column D. We are happy to retrospectively add and even archive GDSs to ensure the GDS Index keeps an accurate record.
2. In column C, write either:
 - i. 'replacing an existing GDS' (and please also name the GDS it replaces in column C), or
 - ii. 'completely new strategy document'.
3. Add any additional information in column D."

Please see attached the Excel spreadsheet with the information on Stats NZ's Government Department Strategy (GDS) that you requested. You will note that there are no new GDSs at Stats NZ.

While Stats NZ has no additional documents in scope of your request, it should be noted that information related to organisational strategies is captured in our Statement of Strategic Intentions 2023-2028, which is out of scope of your request.

Should you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact Stats NZ at: OfficeoftheGSCE@stats.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

It is Stats NZ's policy to proactively release its responses to official information requests where possible. This letter, with your personal details removed, will be published on the Stats NZ website. Publishing responses creates greater openness and transparency of government

decision-making and helps better inform public understanding of the reasons for decisions.

Nāku noa, nā




Principal Advisor – Executive & Government Relations | Office of the Chief Executive
Stats NZ Tatauranga Aotearoa
stats.govt.nz

Reference: 20250004



TE TAI ŌHANGA
THE TREASURY

28 January 2025

Wendy McGuinness
McGuinness Institute Te Hononga Waka
Level 1A, 15 Allen Street, Wellington 6011 | PO Box 24-222 Wellington 6142

Dear Wendy

Thank you for your Official Information Act request, received on 2 January 2025. You requested the following:

To review and update the spreadsheet you provided regarding:

- *The status of the 2023 GDS Index for the Treasury (highlighted in column F)*
- *Potential 'new' GDSs that were published in 2024 that may meet the GDS definition.*

Information being released

Please refer to the attached spreadsheet.

If you require more detail about the documents listed in the spreadsheet, they are available on our website - <https://www.treasury.govt.nz/>.

Additional information

The Treasury will be delivering the next Long-term Insights Briefing (LTIB) in June 2025 and the next Long-term Fiscal Statement (LTFS) in late 2025. Both of these will be published on our website.

This reply addresses the information you requested. You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision.

Yours sincerely


Manager, Strategy & Performance

1 The Terrace
PO Box 3724
Wellington 6140
New Zealand
tel. +64 4 472-2733

<https://treasury.govt.nz>