

6 July 2026



Dear 

Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), received on 29 June 2026. You requested the following:

... how much was spent by IRD on the discussion document and subsequent consultation for: "Empowering families: Increasing certainty and preventing debt in the Working for Families scheme"

Information withheld or refused

Your request for information relating to the costs of consultation is refused under section 18(g) of the OIA, as the information is not held by Inland Revenue, and we do not believe it is held by another agency. Inland Revenue does not generally record the cost of consultation for specific policy projects as consultation forms part of *The Generic Tax Policy Process* which plays an important role in creating and sustaining a tax system that is both widely accepted by taxpayers and can respond to New Zealand's changing needs.

Right of review

If you disagree with my decision on your OIA request, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the OIA. You can contact the office of the Ombudsman by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Publishing of OIA response

We intend to publish our response to your request on Inland Revenue's website (ird.govt.nz) as this information may be of interest to other members of the public. This letter, with your personal details removed, may be published in its entirety. Publishing responses increases the availability of information to the public and is consistent with the OIA's purpose of enabling more effective participation in the making and administration of laws and policies and promoting the accountability of officials.

Thank you again for your request.

Yours sincerely



Paul Young

Policy Lead – Families and Individuals