

## Public Sector Carbon Neutrality Accountability Project

Date: 22 September 2021

About: OIA Response to request for information on the Public Sector Carbon Neutrality Accountability Project: Stage in transition to becoming carbon neutral

Author: Ministry for Culture and Heritage

This document has been proactively released.

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Please note information is current as at the date it was supplied to the requester, or as at the date outlined in the response.

9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe 9(2)

I refer to your request received on 22 September 2021, which has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). As you are aware, this request was transferred from the Office of the Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage to the Ministry for Culture and Heritage. Please find a response to each of your questions below:

**1. What steps has your organisation taken to measure and reduce carbon emissions?**

- What do you expect your net emissions to be in 2025 and will they be carbon neutral?
- If they will not, how much additional money would your department need to allocate to decarbonise by 2025?
- What is the main source of your emissions and could I please have a copy of your My carbon emissions inventory?

The steps taken by Manatū Taonga to reduce its emissions include recycling, paperless processing of documents, the introduction of a video conferencing system, and using an electricity supplier that uses 100% renewable generation. In addition, it has joined the Government's sustainability network to ensure it is taking an approach that is consistent across government.

We are currently in the process of adopting a programme of reporting and reducing our carbon emissions as part of the government's plan to have a carbon neutral public sector by 2025. Once that programme is in place, we will have a clearer idea about expected net emissions in outyears, the cost of decarbonisation and the main sources of our emissions.

**2. Have you got a policy inside your department for zero-carbon use by 2025 and what's the official wording of it?**

Responding to Climate Change is a key part of the Strategic Intentions of Manatū Taonga. The wording is as follows:

*Climate change is having and will have negative impacts on culture, cultural heritage, traditional knowledge, and ways of life. Many of the hapori (communities) Manatū Taonga and our agencies work with will be facing challenges from climate change, including significant issues in preserving taonga. We need to meet our obligations under the Carbon Neutral Government Programme and support our cultural agencies to also reduce emissions.*

*As the Government's key adviser on the cultural system, Manatū Taonga has an important role in advising the Government on climate change in relation to the risks to New Zealand's culture and supporting the system to respond and adapt so that our culture can continue to thrive now and into the future.*

- Have you got a zero carbon committee?

A Climate Change working group has been established within Manatū Taonga (Te Ohu Mana Taiao), with members from throughout the organisation.

- **What structure have you set up with how many staff FTE devoted to carbon neutrality?**
- **Which section of your organisation has this been delegated to and who is managing this portfolio?**
- **What are the main areas you have identified to meet the set goal?**
  - **For each of these, what's your work plan?**

Te Iho (the Manatū Taonga Organisational Group) is the area of the organisation managing emissions, and therefore comes under the Deputy Chief Executive of Te Iho.

Manatū Taonga is currently in the process of establishing the internal structure responsible for measuring and reducing emissions as part of the government's plan to have a carbon neutral public sector by 2025.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us or have any further questions, please feel free to contact [oia@mch.govt.nz](mailto: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 at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

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