



27 June 2024

9(2)(a) privacy

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I refer to your official information request received on 20 June 2024 where you have asked:

“I have a query in relation to the Michael Heron/Pania Gray lead inquiry into the use of census and health data by TPM.

Please can you provide me with a copy of the declaration of any conflicts of interest completed by Pania Gray?”

Our response

To clarify, the inquiry in question is into how government agencies protected personal information provided for the 2023 Census and COVID 19 vaccination purposes. The purpose of the inquiry is to establish the facts and provide an independent assessment of government agency activity. It is not an inquiry into Te Pāti Māori. The terms of reference for the inquiry set out what is and is not in scope and are publicly available [here](#).

Information being released

As with all inquiries, we request broad declarations from inquirers for Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission to consider and when necessary, manage any perceived, potential, or actual conflicts of interest as appropriate.

For completeness, Pania Gray has provided the Commission with a range of her former and current associations to ensure any perceived, potential or actual conflicts of interests can be assessed. We have identified five emails from Ms Gray that contained information within scope of your request.

As the relevant emails also include information that is outside the scope of your request that would be redacted (including personal details about other individuals and administrative details about the inquiry) we have decided to release the relevant information to you in a summary form as enabled by section 16(1)(e) of the Official Information Act.

Please find outlined in the table below the declarations, concerning the government agencies, service providers and oversight bodies mentioned in the terms of reference for this inquiry Ms Gray has provided to the Commission.

Declaration	Agency	Additional information
No current or previous contractual association	Privacy Commissioner Ombudsman Statistics New Zealand Oranga Tamariki	N/A
No current or previous contractual association	New Zealand Police	Has previously had professional contact with the Police Commissioner through a Ministry of Justice contract to the justice sector leadership board. Has a relative employed as a frontline Police officer
No current or previous contractual association	Electoral Commission	Deputy Electoral Commissioner is a colleague on the NZ Film Commission Board
Independent member audit and risk committee	Ministry of Health	Nov 2021 – June 2024. See comment below
No current contractual association.	Ministry of Social Development.	Small contract in 2011
No current contractual association.	Te Whatu Ora / Health New Zealand	Facilitated a workshop in August 2023 (head and neck cancer specialists Te Whatu Ora, Mid-Central)
No current contractual association.	Te Puni Kōkiri	Permanent employee between 1995 – 2003. External member of Audit and Risk Committee between 2011 – 2015. Facilitated workshops in 2011 and 2014. Broadly in relation to TPK's statutory monitoring function. Small consulting assignment broadly in relation to monitoring and assurance workstream between March – June 2019. Governance training delivered on behalf of the Institute of Directors between July – October 2021
No current or previous contractual association.	Te Whānau o Waipareira Trust Manurewa Trust Board	N/A

Not aware of any personal relationships.		
No current or previous contractual relationships. Not aware of any personal relationships.	Whānau Ora Commissioning Agency (WOCA)	Professional association with a current WOCA Board Member. This association is due to both being members of a statutory entity's audit and risk committee since May 2023 Professional association with a former director of WOCA. Current trustee of a Trust which Ms Gray does contract work for

Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission has considered each of the above declarations and determined that none raised an unmanageable conflict. In relation to Ms Gray's role as a member of the risk and audit committee for both Te Mātāwai and the Ministry of Health, we have made a decision that any real or perceived conflict is manageable. We are still determining and documenting the steps that will be followed to ensure any real or perceived conflict is managed appropriately.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Ministerial.Services@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) on the Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission's website.

Yours sincerely

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