

20 June 2023

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Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Official Information Act Request

Thank you for your request of 22 May 2023, under the Official Information Act 1982, for the following information:

1. *The agenda and minutes from last week's panel visit with Te Pūkenga and the NZ Nursing Council about the accreditation of three new Bachelor of Nursing degrees (Bachelor of Nursing, BN Māori and BN Pacific).*
2. *The application documents provided to panel members prior to the panel visit.*
3. *An outline of the full schedule that was intended for the panel visit.*
4. *The preliminary evaluation and feedback submitted by panel members to NZQA.*
5. *With reference to this <https://www.nzqa.govt.nz/assets/Providers-and-partners/Registration-and-accreditation/Guidelines-for-the-Degree-Panels-March-2023.pdf> [page 5], reasons why the panel visit went ahead despite any major issues identified in the feedback.*
6. *A list of the questions and concerns NZQA had about the programmes.*
7. *A breakdown of the NZQA standards that were not met in the proposed programmes.*
8. *A breakdown of the accreditation fees paid to NZQA, and the future costs if Te Pūkenga reapplies for accreditation.*
9. *Copies of the proposed Bachelor of Nursing programmes.*
10. *Communications, correspondence or similar relating to this panel visit, including communications between Te Pūkenga and NZQA*

Please note that under section 14 of the Official Information Act 1982, NZQA has transferred part 2 and part 9 of your request to Te Pūkenga. Part 2 has been transferred because Te Pūkenga provided these documents to the panel members prior to the panel visit, and not NZQA. Part 9 has been transferred because NZQA did not receive separate copies of the proposed Bachelor of Nursing programmes (the information we hold in this regard is embedded in other information).

Background

In December 2022, NZQA received applications from Te Pūkenga for the approval and accreditation of three Bachelor of Nursing degrees – Bachelor of Nursing, Bachelor of Nursing Pacific and Bachelor of Nursing Māori.

This application followed NZQA's standard [degree programme approval and accreditation application process](#), as outlined on our website. As part of this process, a degree panel was appointed to provide expert knowledge and skills to thoroughly analyse the application. The degree panel, alongside a panel from the Nursing Council of New Zealand (NCNZ), scheduled a three-day

panel visit to be conducted at Te Pūkenga's Ōtara campus on 15, 16, and 17 May 2023. However, after the first day Te Pūkenga withdrew the qualification applications.

In the meantime, the existing nursing degree programmes offered by Te Pūkenga business divisions remain available.

Panel visit agenda, minutes and schedule

In response to part 1 and part 3 of your request, I have attached the final version of the agenda for the degree panel visits as Item 1, which outlines the full schedule intended for the panel visit.

Previous draft versions of the agenda are also attached as items 1a to 1m.

As Te Pūkenga elected to withdraw the degree applications, a full panel report was not written and there are no minutes from the panel visit. However, Item 2 contains some notes regarding the panel visit which you may find relevant.

Panel's preliminary evaluation feedback

In response to part 4 of your request, please see Items 3 and 4 attached, which contain the collated preliminary evaluation feedback submitted by panel members to NZQA.

The continuation of the panel visit

As outlined in NZQA's [degree programme approval and accreditation application process](#) and the [Guidelines for Degree Panels](#) document, a panel is established to obtain feedback on the proposed programme from the perspectives of key stakeholders and triangulate that feedback to inform its recommendation to NZQA.

During the panel visit, the panel investigates a range of outstanding or pertinent aspects of the programme in relation to the approval and accreditation criteria in the Rules and Guidelines, evaluates whether these criteria are met, and recommends to NZQA whether the programme be approved and/or whether the education organisation be accredited to offer the programme.

Accordingly, in response to part 5 of your request, NZQA proceeded with the panel visit to investigate outstanding aspects of the programme.

NZQA questions, concerns and standards not met

In response to part 6 of your request, I refer you to Items 3 and 4 which contain relevant information regarding the panel's feedback on the proposed degree programmes. Please also find attached the requests for further information (RFI) documents sent to Te Pūkenga as Items 5 and 6. The RFI documents outline aspects of the applications on which NZQA required Te Pūkenga to provide further information or clarification.

I attach Item 7 in response to part 7 of your request, which contains a breakdown of the NZQA standards not met in the proposed programmes.

Approval and Accreditation fees

In response to part 8 of your request, please note that the approval and accreditation costs for degree programmes are outlined on the NZQA website here: [Cost for Analysing a degree Programme Approval and Accreditation Application](#).

NZQA has an agreed an annual Infrastructure Fee with Te Pūkenga, which covers the costs of the evaluation of degree applications by NZQA staff, including resubmissions. Panel member costs are charged to Te Pūkenga separately on top of the Infrastructure Fee. If Te Pūkenga were to re-apply for approval and accreditation of a degree programme, NZQA would charge Te Pūkenga for the panel related costs, in accordance with the fees listed on our website.

NZQA has not yet received invoices from all panel members for their time on the panel, however, the invoices received to date are attached as Items 8 and 9 for your reference.

Correspondence regarding the panel visit

In response to part 10 of your request regarding communications, correspondence or similar relating to this panel visit, including communications between Te Pūkenga and NZQA, please refer to Items 10 to 47b in the table below.

A full list of the documents being released can be found below:

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Under section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act 1982 to protect the privacy of natural persons, any identifying information of panel members, the names and contact details of panel members, external stakeholders, ākonga, and some non-NZQA staff (Te Pūkenga and Nursing Council of New Zealand) have been withheld due to an abundance of caution as NZQA has not been able to consult with all these parties. The personal cell phone numbers of two NZQA staff members have also been withheld under s9(2)(a).

If you require further assistance or believe we have misinterpreted your request, please contact Elizabeth Templeton in the Office of the Chief Executive, email elizabeth.templeton@nzqa.govt.nz or telephone (04) 463 3339.

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you have the right, under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act 1982, to lodge a complaint with the Office of the Ombudsman at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz. You can also telephone 0800 802 502 or write to the Ombudsman at PO Box 10152, Wellington, 6143.

Nāku nā



Dr Grant Klinkum
Pouwhakahaere/Chief Executive