

6 December 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

### Official Information Act Request

Thank you for your request of 14 November, under the Official Information Act 1982, for the following information:

1. A year-by-year cost breakdown of how appropriated money has been spent in the project so far - including total cost to date.
2. Information on the process to the tender to award the project to a company to develop the assessment and marking systems, how they were chosen, and the name of the successful and unsuccessful companies which had bid to be a part of the process.

This information is outlined below:

1. **A year-by-year cost breakdown of how appropriated money has been spent in the project so far - including total cost to date.**

#### Crown revenue received by year

	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021
Crown Revenue appropriated	2,900,000	8,000,000	19,477,000	1,441,000

#### Breakdown of expenditure by category

	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020 to October 2019	Total to date
ICT Technology design, development and implementation	1,962,275	3,371,040	2,282,881	7,616,196
Change Management, including training, communications and stakeholder engagement		1,140,753	480,863	1,621,617
Business case/Research and Development/Innovation trials	1,072,405	1,856,804	321,807	3,251,015
Programme Management including legal, procurement and quality assurance		1,031,691	379,386	1,411,077
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>3,034,680</b>	<b>7,400,288</b>	<b>3,464,937</b>	<b>13,899,905</b>

**2. Information on the process to the tender to award the project to a company to develop the assessment and marking systems, how they were chosen, and the name of the successful and unsuccessful companies which had bid to be a part of the process**

The successful vendor for the marking solution, is RM Education Limited, and, for the delivery of the assessments, SoNET Systems Pty Limited. The significant phases of the NCEA Online procurement process to select the successful vendors are shown in table below:

Date	Activity
July 2015	NZQA commissioned a consulting report leading to establishment of "Procuring for Outcomes" approach
July 2016	Procuring for Digital Assessment Outcomes – Early Market Engagement launched with significant interest shown by 25 separate domestic and international suppliers.
April – July 2017	Design Exercise (creating prototypes of how the solution would work) with five shortlisted vendors from 25.
October 2017	Request for Proposal (RFP) developed and five vendors qualified to be invited to bid.
November– December 2017	RFP bids evaluated against project and task requirements and 2 vendors with complementary solutions selected to move to the Solution Design phase
March - October 2018	Solution Design phase
October 2018 – January 2019	Final negotiations for the agreements to build and then operate the finalised Solution Design taking place with each vendor

The names of unsuccessful vendors are withheld under section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the OIA, as it ... "would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information." NZQA is of the view that releasing the unsuccessful vendors names may damage their reputation.

NZQA is not aware of any public interest considerations outweighing the decision to withhold information under section 9 of the Act. NZQA considers it is in the public interest to attract tenders from a wide range of vendors, including those who expect their tender to be confidential.

As part of the commitment to open and transparent government, NZQA is proactively releasing responses to Official Information Act requests which are of public interest. NZQA intends publishing its response to your request on its website. Your name and contact details will be removed before publication.

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

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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz). You can also telephone 0800 802 502 or write to the Ombudsman at PO Box 10152, Wellington, 6143.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Bean'.

Dr Daryn Bean  
Acting Chief Executive