



Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 19 February 2019 to the Ministry of Education requesting the following information:

1. *How much has the department spent in the last five years (broken down by year) on buying new furniture and office supplies for its offices around New Zealand?*
2. *Please provide any extra detail available on why the purchases were required i.e. office renovation or relocation.*
3. *How much has the department spent on getting rid of furniture i.e. dump or storage fees, in the last five years (broken down by year).*

Any extra detail on why certain items were procured or justification for the purchases or removal of items is appreciated.

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

A breakdown on total spent by the Ministry on new furniture, and the purpose for the purchase, for the past five financial years is provided in the table below:

Purpose of purchase	Financial Year					Grand Total
	FY 13/14	FY 14/15	FY 15/16	FY 16/17	FY 17/18	
Relocation	\$	\$	\$3,659,849.52	\$1,380,103.75	\$134,410.00	
Renovation	\$270,025.00	\$101,956.00	\$ 574,410.00	\$ -	\$647,086.00	
Additional Desk – Staff Growth	\$	\$	\$ -	\$ -	\$15,450.00	
Total	\$270,025.00	\$101,956.00	\$4,234,259.52	\$1,380,103.75	\$796,946.00	\$6,783,290.27

Furniture purchased in 2015/16 includes \$3,453,364 for the relocation to Mātauranga House. Mostly new furniture was purchased for the building, but the Ministry negotiated the best deals possible with suppliers available through the all of government procurement process. The old furniture was deliberately run down over a period of years and wasn't replaced because we were planning for the move.

The Ministry has a minimal spend on disposal of furniture and does not separate the cost. When the Ministry has excess furniture it will be used or disposed in the following manner:

- Re-used within other Ministry offices;
- Sold if there is a value;
- Gifted to a charity or given to another agency; or
- Recycled.

OIA: 1178297

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The cost of storage for FY16/17 is \$47,177.35 and FY17/18 is \$28,751.40.

Please note, the Ministry now proactively publishes OIA responses on our website. As such, we may publish this response on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed.

Thank you again for your email. If you have further questions please feel free to contact our media team in the first instance at media@education.govt.nz. If you are unsatisfied with my response, you have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review it. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely



Zoe Griffiths
Deputy Secretary
Business Enablement and Support