

05 August 2019



Official Information Act request

Thank you for your Official Information Act request dated 07 June 2019 for the below:

- *Financial information for Data Ventures, since its creation. Please state when it was created, its initial budget and actual costs, and how many people work there. Please also provide any reports to senior management regarding progress. I'd welcome any information which state its aims and goals.*

Data Ventures was established in November 2017 as the commercial arm of Stats NZ. The initial budget for Data Ventures across the 2017/2018 and 2018/2019 financial years was \$2.5M. The actual cost up to 30 June 2019 was \$2M, 80% of the total budget.

Initially there were five team members, however, the team has now expanded to seven people in total.

Appended to this letter are copies of the Executive Director Reports for Data Ventures. These reports were provided as updates to the Data Ventures Board from August 2018 onwards.

Also appended to this letter is a Strategy Session document that provides detail on Data Ventures' aims and goals.

Redactions have been made to the Executive Director Reports. The table below summarises these redactions. Where possible, a summary of the redacted text has been included as an Appendix to the Executive Director Reports.

Redaction type	Summary
Section 9(2)(j) of the Act	<p>Information redacted under this section of the Act is withheld to enable Stats NZ to continue negotiations with data suppliers and customers.</p> <p>Information withheld under this section includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• the names of data suppliers and customers</li><li>• updates on meeting with data suppliers and customers, including costings</li><li>• details of negotiations with customers and suppliers, including costings.</li></ul>

Section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the Act	Information redacted under this section of the Act relates to the commercial position of Stats NZ, data suppliers or customers. Information withheld under this section includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• names of data suppliers and customers</li> <li>• updates on meeting with data suppliers and customers, including costings</li> <li>• details of negotiations with customers and suppliers, including costings.</li> </ul>
Section 9(2)(a) of the Act	Information redacted under this section of the Act relates to personal information and is withheld to protect the privacy of the individuals referred to.
Section 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act	Information redacted under this section of the Act is withheld maintain the conduct of public affairs through free and frank expression and opinion.

Additionally, not within the scope of your request but of possible interest, I have attached to this response the Memorandum of Understanding template for data supply for Data Ventures' population density pilot.

You have the right, by way of complaint to the Office of the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act, to seek an investigation and review of this response to your request.

Stats NZ intends to publish its response to your request made under the Act on the Stats NZ website. This letter, with your personal details removed, will be published in its entirety. Consistent with the Act, publishing responses increases the availability of information to the public and helps promote balanced public debate.

Yours sincerely,



**Drew Broadley**  
Executive Director  
Data Ventures