

Reference: 20220309

25 August 2022



Dear 

Thank you for your Official Information Act request, received on 8 August 2022. You requested the following information:

- When was the Puna Ako app developed?*
- Who developed the app?*
- What were the costs of developing, implementing and rolling out the app? Are there ongoing costs - if so, what?*
- How many staff have downloaded the app? How many staff actively use the app?*
- What consideration was given to creating or using a whole-of-government app, or sharing the resources of other agencies, rather than an agency-specific app?*

Information being released

The Puna Ako app was developed for the Treasury in 2017 by Auckland company Kiwa Digital Ltd. The Treasury paid \$10,000 on 31 March 2018 and \$7500 on 10 July 2018, a total of \$17,500 (GST exclusive). This cost includes developing, implementing, maintenance and technical support services in perpetuity. There were no roll out costs.

Ongoing costs are limited to maintenance of The Treasury App Store account, USD99 per annum. There are no other ongoing costs as the original contract included maintenance and technical support services in perpetuity.

In the 2021/22 financial year The Treasury chose to upgrade the following accessibility features and content:

- A new map experience of Aotearoa/New Zealand
- A new glossary experience of words commonly used at Te Tai Ōhanga – The Treasury
- A Windows version for Treasury staff
- The Treasury opening and closing karakia
- Information on our Wharenui – Ngā Mokopuna a Tāne –including our Manu (birds), Ngā Manu a Tāne
- A new Te Tiriti o Waitangi section.

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These additional upgrades cost \$10,200 (GST exclusive).

Getting access to detailed information and analytics of the Puna Ako app is future planned work. We are aware that during the 2022 calendar year, 43 staff downloaded the app.

No consideration was given to creating a whole of government/cross agency app. It is not the role of the Treasury to create apps for use across government.

The photos and some of the content within the app connect to the heart of the Treasury and our wharehau Ngā Mokopuna a Tāne and enables bespoke development for Treasury staff. It is also free and available to the general public.

Staff personal development is important to the Treasury, especially Māori capability. This app, and our Māori capability framework, were leading pieces of work in their time within the public sector.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) may be published on the Treasury website.

This reply addresses the information you requested. You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision.

Yours sincerely

Hamish Ongley
Head of Workforce Capability