



Te Pūkenga

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4 July 2025

Eleanor Alice

By email: fyi-request-31121-289ff3ee@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Eleanor

Request under the Official Information Act 1982 – Partial response and extension notification

Thank you for your two emails dated 27 May 2025 and subsequent email of 9 June 2025, requesting information from Whitireia and WelTec | Te Pūkenga – New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology (Whitireia and WelTec).

With reliance on section 15(1)(AA) of the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), due to your clarification and refinement email, the timeframe for making a decision on your request was reset, as 20 working days from 9 June.

Noting your keenness to have information as soon as possible and avoid the need for applying a charge or refusing of your request, we have split out your request to make it manageable and are providing you with a decision in at least two tranches.

This letter provides a formal decision on parts of your request and a notification of extension on the remaining parts of your request under the OIA.

We have set out the questions from your request below that we are able to provide a formal decision on now - within the 20 working-day timeframe. For your numbered questions, these include full decisions on your questions 1, 2, 5, 8, 9 and 10, and partial decisions on your questions 3, 4, 6 and 7.

We then provide details of the partial extension required to make a decision on the remainder of your request. This includes the first three unnumbered points from your request as well as part of your numbered questions 3, 4, 6 and 7.

As noted by my office in their clarification email dated 6 June, in several of your questions you have combined the topics of kaimahi (staff) in specific role positions and other subjects occurring at Whitireia and WelTec. As outlined in that correspondence, this appeared to make an implied presumption of their timing and relatedness. To provide a response we have separated them.

The Decision

You requested:

What are the key responsibilities of the Director of Teaching and Learning for Whitireia & WelTec?

We have interpreted this question to refer to the responsibilities of this role as set out in the 'Key Accountabilities' section of the position description. Please find attached as **Appendix One** an extract, providing the relevant section from the position description for the Director of Teaching and Learning.

You requested:

How many events (shows, exhibitions, gigs, workshops, lectures) presented by School of Creativity akōnga [sic] has the current Whitireia & WelTec Director of Teaching & Learning attended during her time in the role?

We have interpreted this question to be regarding attendance as a formal representative of Whitireia and WelTec in capacity of Director Teaching and Learning from June 2019.

Dr Leanne Ivil, Whitireia and WelTec Director Teaching and Learning, has attended events presented by the School of Creativity as time, COVID and health allowed during her time in the role. As you will appreciate this spans a six-year period, with numerous events held each year. With reference to section 18(g) of the OIA – *the information requested is not held by the department* - there is no specific record of Dr Ivil's attendance at all the events you have listed. However, we note that regular Pānui (kaimahi newsletter) from the Director often features events and highlights of note from the School.

You requested the following for the period between 2016 and 2020, and years 2022 and 2024:

Who held the director of Teaching & Learning role at W&W...

Who held the Director - Strategy, Performance and Improvement role during this period...

Since 2012, Whitireia and WelTec have been operating within a strategic partnership, including with a combined council. However, it is important to note that prior to April 2015 each agency had separate Chief Executives and Executive Leadership Teams. Each agency produced their own annual reports up until 2016, when the first combined report was published.

More information can be found through the Whitireia and WelTec website at: www.whitireiaweltec.ac.nz/about-us/who-we-are/our-history.

With reference to section 18(d) of the OIA - *the information requested is or will soon be publicly available* - we advise that the bottom of page 10 of the first combined *WelTec | Whitireia Annual Report 2016* provides a photo and names of the then three roles: Director Teaching and Learning (Whitireia); Director Teaching and Learning (WelTec) and the Director Strategy, Performance & Improvement. These roles were publicly announced in February of 2016.

You can find historic annual reports, including that for 2016, for both Whitireia and WelTec online via www.whitireiaweltec.ac.nz/about-us/who-we-are.

The two kaimahi listed within that 2016 annual report in the individual roles of Director Teaching and Learning for Whitireia and WelTec respectively, both finished in these roles early in 2017. There was no Director of Teaching and Learning at Whitireia and WelTec – either as separate roles nor together as Whitireia and WelTec combined - from this time, and throughout 2018.

The Director Strategy, Performance and Improvement role ceased when Dr Leanne Ivil became Director Teaching and Learning Whitireia and WelTec (combined) in June 2019; Dr Ivil was in this role in 2022 and 2024. Dr Ivil remains Director of Teaching and Learning, in addition to becoming Operations Lead on 10 May of this year.

You requested:

Which staff (name and role) from Whitireia and WelTec are involved in assessing feedback and submissions relating to the RIV phases 1 through 3 change proposals?

In Phase One the Whitireia and WelTec People Services team themed the feedback and provided a summary of themes to the former Executive Director, who was the decision maker.

In Phase Two the Whitireia and WelTec People Services team will provide anonymised themed feedback to the various Senior Leaders of each section involved in the change process, and will provide a summary of themes to the Operations Lead, who is the decision maker, with recommendations coming from each Senior Leader.

We are withholding specific kaimahi names from within the People Services team under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA – *to protect the privacy of natural persons*. We do not consider withholding this information is outweighed by the public interest in its release at this time.

You requested:

Which staff (name and role) from Whitireia and WelTec are responsible for the final decisions?

Mark Oldershaw, former Executive Director, was responsible for the final decisions for Phase One.

Dr Ivil, as Operations Lead, is responsible for the final decisions for Phases Two and Three.

Partial Extension Notification

We are extending the timeframe for making a decision on the remainder of your request by 22 working days. You can expect a decision on the remaining points of your request by 7 August 2025. This extension is being made under sections 15A(1)(a) and (b) of the Official Information Act (OIA). Please be assured we will provide a response prior to this time if at all possible.

Scoping and searching for information that may fall within your request has necessitated a search through a large quantity of information, with a sizable amount of information identified. It is important for us to take the time to consider each and every document and email (including their accompanying attachments), for their inclusion within scope and subsequent release. Meeting the original timeframe would unreasonably interfere with the operations of Whitireia and WelTec and national office Te Pūkenga kaimahi.

Additionally, once information within scope has been identified and collated, as part of our consideration of your request, it may be necessary for us to carry out consultations about release of that information. The consultations necessary to make a decision on the request take time, meaning a proper response to the request could not reasonably be made within the original time limit.

You have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the OIA if you are not happy with this response or extension. Information about how to do this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Gus Gilmore', with a large circular flourish above the name.

Gus Gilmore
Tumuaki | Chief Executive

Appendix One

Extract from *Position Description for the Director Teaching and Learning May 2019*

Key Accountabilities (pages 2 and 3)

Key Accountabilities

Responsibilities of this position are expected to change over time as WelTec and Whitireia respond to changing needs. The incumbent is expected to adapt and develop as the environment evolves. To ensure the focus of responsibilities remains up-to-date, the intention is for the high level description below to be supported by the agreement of short term plans and deliverables as agreed with the Chief Executive.

Organisational leadership

- Is an active, positive and insightful contributor to the development and implementation of organisational strategies, problem solving and decision making.
- Demonstrates strong strategic thinking capability and proven ability to exercise sound judgement and insightful strategic decision making, particularly in a complex, highly dynamic and often ambiguous environment.
- Demonstrates a strong commitment to working as a collegial, inclusive, cooperative and supportive way with senior leadership team colleagues and others.
- Shows willingness and capability to provide support for colleagues to achieve organisational goals, including acting as a source of sound advice for others.
- Shows commitment and ability to act as a positive role model to staff at all levels within the organisation including consistent demonstration of the qualities of resilience, energy and commitment, collegiality, and openness.

Leadership of Teaching and Learning Directorate

- Provides sound and empowering support for Heads of Schools to ensure they have a good understanding of the strategic context in which they are working, clear direction and expectations, the capabilities and resources they need to be effective, and timely and reliable access to decisions and guidance.
- Provides ongoing strategic critical review and oversight of the institute's academic portfolio and models of delivery to ensure efficiency, relevance, and long term financial sustainability of programmes offered, in consultation with Heads of School.
- Works closely with the Director Academic and Heads of Schools to maintain and grow the quality of teaching and research activities across the Directorate.
- Undertakes future planning, risk identification and mitigation, and reporting activities as required.

Health and Safety

- Maintaining knowledge of Health and Safety procedures, and actively support safe work practices in your work area.
- Taking all practicable steps to ensure you don't harm yourself or anyone else.
- Complying with health and safety procedures as outlined in Taikura (Whitireia and WelTec Quality Management System), in particular reporting all incidents and proactively identify hazards and support their management.

Collaborative Relationships

- Developing and maintaining strong, positive and collaborative relationships that enhance the strategic partnership of WelTec and Whitireia.
- Working with others collaboratively and constructively to achieve successful outcomes.
- Supporting the work of the Schools, and Whitireia and WelTec by actively learning and developing, and responding to constructive feedback in order to continually improve the quality of outcomes achieved.
- Developing and maintaining the trust, respect and confidence of colleagues.

Valuing and Nurturing Diversity

- Recognising and positively responding to the different needs of particular groups and individuals within the Whitireia and WelTec communities.
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RELEASED UNDER THE
OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT 1982