



20 March 2024

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Ref: OIA-2023/24-0507

Dear [REDACTED]

Official Information Act request for advice prepared regarding the Government's Response to the Royal Commission's Report into the Terrorist Attack on the Christchurch Mosques

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 7 February 2024. You requested:

"All advice prepared for Minister Judith Collins regarding the Government's Response to the Royal Commission's Report into the Terrorist Attack on the Christchurch Mosques. Please also provide minutes of meetings between officials and the minister, and any requests from Collins' office for advice on this topic. The information should include, but not be restricted to, emails, aide-memoires, Cabinet papers, and notes. Please ensure all information is electronically searchable, and include all attachments. The timeframe of this request is December 4 (the date of DPMC's BIM) to today's date."

*On 7 February 2024, you further clarified your request:
"Sorry, please amend "advice" in my request to "advice/briefings/talking points/discussions"*

The time frame for responding to your request was extended under section 15A of the Act by 10 working days because consultations were required before a decision could be made on your request. Following this extension, I am now in a position to respond.

Our response

Two documents have been identified as in scope of your request as follows:

- *Response to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the mosque attacks: Proposed approach* dated: 18 January 2024.
- *Aide-Mémoire: Letter outlining priorities for the government response to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the attack on Christchurch Mosques* dated: 25 January 2024.

I have decided to release the paper titled *Aide-Mémoire: Letter outlining priorities for the government response to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the attack on Christchurch Mosques* to you, subject to information being withheld under the following sections of the Act:

- section 9(2)(f)(iv), to maintain the confidentiality of advice tendered by or to Ministers and officials
- section 9(2)(g)(ii), to prevent improper pressure or harassment

The paper titled *Response to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the mosque attacks: Proposed approach* is withheld in full under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act, to maintain the confidentiality of advice tendered by or to Ministers and officials.

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Act. No public interest has been identified that would be sufficient to override the reasons for withholding that information.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

This response will be published on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's website during our regular publication cycle. Typically, information is released monthly, or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

Yours sincerely



Bridget White
Executive Director
National Security Group



Coversheet

Aide-Mémoire: Letter outlining priorities for the government response to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the attack on Christchurch Mosques

Date:	25/01/2024	Report No:	DPMC-2023/24-666
		Security Level:	[IN-CONFIDENCE]
		Priority level:	[URGENT]

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Judith Collins Lead Coordination Minister for the Government's Response to the Royal Commission's Report into the Terrorist Attack on the Christchurch Mosques	Forward the attached letter to the Prime Minister, outlining your priorities for the government response to the royal commission.	ASAP

Name	Position	Telephone	1 st Contact
Julian Grey	Acting Executive Director National Security Group	9(2)(g)(ii)	
9(2)(g)(ii)	9(2)(g)(ii)	9(2)(g)(ii)	✓

Minister's Office

Status:

Signed

Withdrawn

Comment for agency

Attachments: Yes

Aide-Mémoire

Letter outlining priorities for the government response to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the attack on Christchurch Mosques

To:	Hon Judith Collins Lead Coordination Minister for the Government's Response to the Royal Commission's Report into the Terrorist Attack on the Christchurch Mosques		
From:	Julian Grey, Acting Executive Director	Date:	25/01/2024
Briefing Number:	DPMC-2023/24-666	Security Level:	[IN-CONFIDENCE]

Purpose

1. This aide-mémoire provides you with a letter to share with the Prime Minister (**Attachment A**), outlining how you will achieve your priorities as Lead Coordination Minister for the Government's Response to RCOI's Report into the Terrorist Attack on the Christchurch Mosques. This is in response to your request for such a letter on 22 December and follows DPMC's initial response on 24 December.

Next steps

2. We recommend you forward this letter to the Prime Minister.
3. Officials will work with your office to arrange a meeting with you, to discuss your preferred direction on engaging with stakeholders relevant to the government's response to the royal commission.

<p>Julian Grey Acting Executive Director National Security Group</p> <p>...../...../.....</p>
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<p>Hon Judith Collins Lead Coordination Minister for the Government's Response to the Royal Commission's Report into the Terrorist Attack on the Christchurch Mosques</p> <p>...../...../.....</p>

Attachment A: Letter to the Prime Minister on your priorities for the government response to the royal commission

Dear Prime Minister

I have undertaken to set out my priorities in my capacity as Lead Coordination Minister for the Government's Response to Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Mosque Attacks. This letter provides you an overview of these priorities, and how I intend to deliver on them.

9(2)(f)(iv)

The terrorist attack on Al-Nur and Linwood Mosques on 15 March 2019 was an immensely traumatic event for this country and one that will have a lasting effect, particularly for our Muslim community. The Royal Commission of Inquiry delivered its report in November 2020, and I believe it is in the interests of those affected by the attacks for government to finalise decision-making on its response.

A timeline outlining how I plan to deliver on this priority is below:

February 2024 **Commissioning an end of term report from Kāpuia, the Ministerial Advisory Group**
Kāpuia is an advisory group that provides independent advice to the Lead Coordination Minister on the government response. I plan to commission the group to deliver a final report, with insights and lessons learned on the Royal Commission, before the group concludes its term on 9 June 2024.

March 2024 **Meeting of responsible Ministers**
I intend to call a meeting of relevant Ministers to discuss outstanding areas of work across the royal commission response. This will ensure visibility and alignment across the government response, and alignment with our priorities as a government.

9(2)(f)(iv) 2024 **Cabinet to confirm the Government's approach to the Royal Commission response**

9(2)(f)(iv)

I will measure success of this priority through:

- Timely delivery of milestones as outlined above;
- 9(2)(f)(iv)

- 9(2)(f)(iv)
-



I look forward to working with you on this priority as we deliver a safe, secure, and ambitious New Zealand.

Yours sincerely

Hon Judith Collins KC MP

Lead Coordination Minister for the Government's Response to the Royal Commission's Report into the Terrorist Attack on the Christchurch Mosques

Released Under the Official Information Act 1982