



CABINET OFFICE

9 May 2024

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Ref: OIA OIA-2023/24-0809

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Official Information Act request: Prime Minister's interests in companies/organisations

Thank you for your Official Information Act request received on 26 April 2024. You requested:

Could you please provide a list of companies/organisations that Christopher Luxon has owned shares in, served on the board for, consulted for, and/or earned a salary from during his political career. Please include any company shares he divested since he became an MP to present day and shares he has invested in over the same period."

We have interpreted your request for information held by the Cabinet Office about the Prime Minister's financial interests which are declared as part of the ministerial conflicts of interest regime. In that regard we hold information relating to the time since Rt Hon Christopher Luxon was appointed as the Prime Minister on 27 November 2023.

You refer to the Prime Minister's "political career", which we have taken to mean as starting at the date of the election at which he was first elected as a Member of Parliament, on 17 October 2020. The Cabinet Office only holds information from the time of his appointment as Prime Minister.

All members of Parliament are required to disclose certain assets and interests in an annual *Register of Pecuniary and Other Specified Interests of Members of Parliament*. The current register can be found here: ([Members' financial interests - New Zealand Parliament \(www.parliament.nz\)](http://www.parliament.nz)).

Additional requirements apply to Ministers' interests. The Cabinet Office, on behalf of the Prime Minister, supports Ministers in identifying and managing conflicts of interest that may arise in relation to their portfolios or other ministerial responsibilities.

Successive Ombudsmen have long held the view that Cabinet Office advice to Ministers is inherently confidential. It is in the public interest that the Cabinet Office can obtain and assess information about conflicts of interest and provide advice to Ministers on how to

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resolve them. Ministers are encouraged to seek advice from the Secretary of the Cabinet on a confidential basis.

Details regarding conflicts of interest are not generally disclosed, in order to ensure the confidentiality of Cabinet proceedings, to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs and in some cases to protect personal privacy. I am therefore withholding the information described above under the following sections of the Act:

- section 9(2)(a), to protect personal information;
- section 9(2)(ba)(ii), to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence, where the making available of the information would damage the public interest;
- section 9(2)(f)(iv), to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials;
- section 9(2)(g)(i), to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to Ministers or officials in the course of their duty.

Every year the Cabinet Office proactively releases certain information about the management of ministerial conflicts in accordance with an agreement with the Office of the Ombudsman. This information covers transfers of responsibility and arrangements not to receive papers. These annual releases are published on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's website at:

[Annual Ministers' interests releases | Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet \(DPMC\)](#)

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 the 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.

Nāku noa, nā



Rachel Hayward
Secretary of the Cabinet