

29 August 2024

Dear

Ref: OIA-2024/25-0059

## Official Information Act request for titles of advice provided to the Prime Minister from 27 November 2023 to 31 March 2024

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 18 July 2024. You requested:

"Under the OIA, please provide a complete list of all titles of advice provided to Prime Minister Luxon through to the end of March. This is only with respect to his prime ministerial portfolio ie excluding national security and intelligence, and ministerial services."

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

We have interpreted your request for advice provided to the Prime Minister (PM), Rt Hon Christopher Luxon for the PM portfolio to include formal briefing documents (for example reports, briefings, memoranda, aide memoires) provided by officials from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC). We have interpreted the timeframe of your request to be from 27 November 2023 (date of the ministerial warrant) to 31 March 2024.

Some information within scope of your request is set out in the PM's responses to the following Written Parliamentary Questions (WPQ): 13 (2024), 412 (2024), 551 (2024), 783 (2024), 1098 (2024), 2412 (2024), 2707 (2024), 3209 (2024), 4157 (2024), and 4983 (2024).

These responses are available on the Parliamentary website and the relevant links are set out below.

- 27 November 2023 22 January 2024 <u>Written questions New Zealand Parliament</u> (www.parliament.nz)
- 29 January 2 February 2024 <u>Written questions New Zealand Parliament</u> (www.parliament.nz)
- 5-9 February 2024 Written questions New Zealand Parliament (www.parliament.nz)
- 12-16 February 2024 <u>Written questions New Zealand Parliament</u> (www.parliament.nz)
- 19-23 February 2024 <u>Written questions New Zealand Parliament</u> (www.parliament.nz)
- 26 February 1 March 2024 <u>Written questions New Zealand Parliament</u> (www.parliament.nz)
- 4-8 March 2024 Written questions New Zealand Parliament (www.parliament.nz)
- 11-15 March 2024 Written questions New Zealand Parliament (www.parliament.nz)
- 18-22 March 2024 <u>Written questions New Zealand Parliament (www.parliament.nz)</u>
- 25-29 March 2024 Written questions New Zealand Parliament (www.parliament.nz)

I am therefore refusing part of your request under section 18(d) of the Act – the information requested is publicly available.

Owing to time sensitivity the titles of some documents within scope of your request identified in the above WPQ were not released. I am now in a position to release the titles of some of these documents. The released titles are set out below:

- Information on DPMC's time-limited funding,1 December 2023
- Future DPMC and Savings, 11 January 2024
- Terrorist Designation of the Entirety of Hamas Under the Terrorism Suppression Act dated 18 January 2024
- Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet Savings Options, 30 January 2024
- The King's Service Order: Informal approval for the Royal Warrant, 2 February 2024
- Christchurch Call: Draft Cabinet Paper, 2 February 2024
- Request for acceptance and wear of the UK Coronation Medal 2023 to 30 NZDF personnel, 7 February 2024
- Vote Prime Minister and Cabinet Budget 2024 Submission, 9 February 2024
- Draft Cabinet paper: Establishing a sustainable, resilient Christchurch Call Secretariat, 9 February 2024
- Decision to Designate Hamas as a Terrorist Entity dated 16 February 2024
- Response to the Intelligence and Security Act Review options for the Government Response, 23 February 2024
- Intelligence and Security Committee Meeting on 27 February 2024, 23 February 2024
- Publishing circular on consultation and operating arrangements, 27 February 2024
- The King's Service Order: Formal approval of Royal Warrant, 6 March 2024
- Chief Executive Update, 7 March 2024
- Renewal of Three Terrorist Designations, 8 March 2024
- DPMC Approach to Budget 24, 15 March 2024
- Progressing the transfer of the Child Wellbeing and Poverty Reduction Group to the Ministry of Social Development, 20 March 2024
- Application to Revoke the Designation of the New People's Army and the Communist Party of the Philippines as a Terrorist Entity, 27 March 2024

Some document titles identified in the above WPQ, however, remain unreleased. The titles are withheld under the following sections of the Act:

- section 6(a), to protect the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of New Zealand
- section 9(2)(ba)(i), to protect the supply of similar information in the future
- section 9(2)(f)(iv), to maintain the confidentiality of advice tendered by or to Ministers and officials.

Also identified as relevant to your request are some briefings provided by DPMC's Policy Advisory Group to the PM. These briefings are provided to the PM in confidence to support him in his role as leader of the Government and chair of Cabinet. These briefings are withheld in their entirety under the following sections of the Act:

- section 6(a), to protect the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of New Zealand
- section 9(2)(f)(ii), to maintain collective and individual ministerial responsibility
- section 9(2)(f)(iv), to maintain the confidentiality of advice tendered by or to Ministers and officials
- section 9(2)(g)(i), to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinion
- section 9(2)(h), to maintain legal professional privilege.

Further, information within scope of your request not captured in the above WPQ is set out below:

- Ministerial portfolio changes advice on implementation, 23 January 2024
- New Associate Justice (Treaty Principles Bill) Portfolio, 23 January 2024
- Ministerial appointments and portfolio changes, 25 January 2024
- Delegations to Associate Ministers: Defence and Health portfolios, 26 January 2024
- Governor General (Allowance) Order 2024, 26 January 2024
- Cabinet Committee Terms of Reference and Membership, 26 January 2024
- Christchurch Call: Next Steps, 26 January 2024
- Prime Minister's Weekly, 26 January 2024.

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 outweigh 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 DPMC'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

Clare Ward

**Executive Director** 

Strategy, Governance and Engagement

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