




## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

20 September 2024



Ref: OIA-2024/25-0183

Tēnā koe 

### Official Information Act request: Earthshot

Thank you for your Official Information Act (the Act) request received on 23 August 2024. You requested:

*"We request the following information, from 26 October 2017 to date:*

- 1. Clarification of whether the previous Labour Government or the current coalition Government has provided any financial assistance to "Earthshot" (Prince Williams climate change charity)*
- 2. If so, please provide all receipts/documents detailing the amount of financial assistance.*
- 3. Any correspondence regarding the Earthshot charity."*

### Response to parts 1 and 2 of your request

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) does not hold any information about the New Zealand Government providing financial assistance to Earthshot. After consulting with other agencies, I do not believe any other agency holds this information. I am therefore refusing your request under section 18(e) of the Act on the grounds the information does not exist.

### Response to part 3 of your request

DPMC holds correspondence regarding the Earthshot charity. This is a series of emails between DPMC, MFAT, the Prime Minister's Office, Kensington Palace and the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Development Office. Attached to the emails are two letters sent between HRH Prince William and then Prime Minister Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern. This correspondence does not relate or refer to financial assistance. I have decided to withhold the six items under the following grounds:

1. section 6(a), to protect the international relations of the government
2. section 9(2)(f)(i), to protect the confidentiality of Sovereign communications
3. section 9(2)(f)(iv), to maintain the confidentiality of advice tendered by or to Ministers and officials
4. section 9(2)(g)(i), to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinion

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In making my decision, in accordance with section 9(1) of the Act I have considered whether the public interest in disclosure outweighs the need to withhold the information, and I have concluded that it does not.

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.

Nāku noa, nā



Rachel Hayward

**Clerk of the Executive Council**