



EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

25 November 2024

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Ref: OIA OIA-2024/25-0403

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Official Information Act request: [REDACTED] Minister Doocey's conflicts of interest

Thank you for your Official Information Act (the Act) request received on 4 November 2024. You requested:

- i. any document, including any cabinet material, relating to a conflict of interest, or potential conflict of interest, between the Hon. Matt Doocey, Member for Waimakariri and either Rolleston Industrial Developments, Carter Group, or Philip and/or Tim Carter;*
- ii. any document from, or submitted on behalf of, the Hon. Matt Doocey, Member for Waimakariri, declaring a conflict of interest, or potential for conflict of interest, between himself and either Rolleston Industrial Developments, Carter Group, and/or Tim or Phillip Carter;*
- iii. any communication between the Hon. Matt Doocey, Member for Waimakariri, and the Hon. Chris Bishop, Member for Hutt South, relating to a conflict of interest, or potential for conflict of interest, between the Hon. Matt Doocey and either Rolleston Industrial Developments, Carter Group, or Philip and/or Tim Carter;*
- iv. any communication between the Hon. Matt Doocey, Member for Waimakariri, and the Hon. Shane Jones, List Member, relating to a conflict of interest, or potential for conflict of interest, between the Hon. Matt Doocey and either Rolleston Industrial Developments, Carter Group, or Philip and/or Tim Carter; and*
- v. any communication between the Hon. Matt Doocey, Member for Waimakariri, and the Hon. Simeon Brown, Minister for Transport, relating to a conflict of interest, or potential for conflict of interest, between the Hon. Matt Doocey and either Rolleston Industrial Developments, Carter Group, or Philip and/or Tim Carter; and*
- vi. any document, including any cabinet material, relating to consideration by any member of the Cabinet, the Hon. Chris Bishop, or the Hon. Shane Jones, relating to a conflict of interest, or potential conflict of interest between the Hon. Matt Doocey and either Rolleston Industrial Developments, Carter*

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Group, or Philip and/or Tim Carter and the impact of that conflict of interest, or potential conflict of interest, regarding the proposed Ohoka development.”

As you were informed on 8 November 2024, we transferred parts three, four and five of your request to Hon Matt Doocey. Our response to questions one, two and six are below.

The Cabinet Office, on behalf of the Prime Minister, supports Ministers in identifying and managing conflicts of interest that may arise in their roles. The Cabinet Office therefore holds information related to Hon Matt Doocey’s declared conflicts of interest.

Details regarding conflicts of interest disclosed to the Cabinet Office are not generally released, 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. This has been the approach taken by successive administrations over many years because 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 resolve them on a confidential basis.

However, I have decided to provide you with some publicly available information regarding the management of Ministers’ conflicts of interest in relation to the Fast-track Approvals Bill (the Bill), which is set out below.

Ahead of the final list of projects being considered by Cabinet Committee and Cabinet for inclusion in the Fast-track Approvals Bill, Ministers, including Hon Doocey, were asked to review their interests and declare any conflicts of interest in relation to any of the listed projects. Ministers who declared an interest with a particular project left the room for any discussion at Cabinet Committee or Cabinet relating to that project. This information was released by Hon Bishop: [Government releases more Fast-track detail | Beehive.govt.nz](https://www.beehive.govt.nz/government-releases-more-fast-track-detail).

There is additional information covered by your request that I have decided to withhold. The Cabinet Office holds other information about Hon Doocey’s declared conflicts of interest. The grounds for withholding this information under the Act are:

1. section 9(2)(a), to protect the privacy of individuals
2. section 9(2)(ba)(i), to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence in order to prevent prejudice to the supply of information in the future
3. section 9(2)(f)(ii), to maintain collective and individual ministerial responsibility
4. section 9(2)(f)(iv), to maintain the confidentiality of advice tendered by or to Ministers and officials
5. section 9(2)(g)(i), to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinion.

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 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