



17 December 2024

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Ref: OIA-2024/25-0451

Tēnā koe [Redacted]

Official Information Act request: Letters between the former Prime Minister and the Gates Foundation

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 13 November 2024. You requested:

“...copies of the letters dated 8 October 2019, and 15 July, 3 August and 17 November 2020 mentioned in [the attached] OIA response [PMO 2021-035 refers] ...”

The timeframe for responding to your request for the letter dated 8 October 2019 was extended under section 15A of the Act. I am now in a position to respond to this part of your request.

Information being released

I have decided to release the document listed below in full.

Date	Document description	Decision
8 October 2019	Letter from Gates Foundation	Release in full

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;

[Redacted signature]

Janine Smith
Deputy Chief Executive, Policy

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October 8, 2019

Rt. Hon. Jacinda Ardern
Prime Minister
Parliament Buildings
Freepost P.O. Box 18 888
Wellington 6160
New Zealand

Dear Prime Minister,

Thank you for joining us at *Goalkeepers* this year. It was a great honor to meet you.

It was exciting to learn how you are embedding the Sustainable Development Goals in New Zealand's policy and budget processes, and a good challenge to our audience of young activists and leaders to consider when thinking about how their own countries are handling these issues.

It was also very interesting to hear your thinking on how New Zealand's domestic agenda translates to your country's regional and global role. We're pleased that New Zealand has been a partner to a few of the multilateral health efforts which are also high priorities for our foundation, like the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. As those organizations look to renew their funding, we welcome New Zealand stepping up its support as a vital voice for the interests of your region.

Lastly, I hope we're able to stay in touch on plans for the *Generation Equality Forum* in Paris next July. It would be great if you could participate in person with President Macron for what will be an historic opportunity to advance gender equality globally, much like you've done domestically in New Zealand.

Bill and I share your deep commitment to creating a safer, healthier, and more equitable world, and we look forward to spending time with you again.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melinda Gates".

Melinda Gates

Released Under the Official Information Act 1982