



EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

10 February 2025

[REDACTED]
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Ref: OIA-2024/25-0561

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Official Information Act request: Meetings and correspondence between Prime Minister and Governor General

Thank you for your Official Information Act (the Act) request received on 21 December 2024. You requested:

- *whether the Prime Minister meets regularly with the Governor-General (excluding Executive Council meetings) and, if so, how often;*
- *the dates and location of all meetings (excluding Executive Council meetings) between the Prime Minister and the Governor-General in 2024;*
- *the dates and location of all meetings (excluding Executive Council meetings) between other Ministers of the Crown and the Governor-General in 2024;*
- *what categories of government or cabinet documents or papers are provided to the Governor-General;*
- *how Ministers of the Crown discharge their obligations under clause 16 of the Letters Patent Constituting the Office of Governor-General of New Zealand to "keep Our Governor-General fully informed concerning the general conduct of the Government of Our said Realm, so far as they are responsible therefor..."*

Response to your request

The Prime Minister and the Governor-General meet or call from time to time as their schedules allow, and also as relevant matters arise. In-person meetings are usually held at Government House. In 2024, they met in-person on the following dates:

- 28 February 2024
- 22 May 2024
- 30 October 2024

The Governor-General meets with Ministers regularly at Executive Council, and also interacts with Ministers from time to time as part of her official programme. Outside those occasions, the Governor-General did not specifically meet with any Ministers of the Crown during 2024. As the information you have requested does not exist, I am refusing this aspect of your request under section 18(e) of the Act.

As you have identified, Ministers, as Executive Councillors, are required to keep the Governor-General informed of the general conduct of government business. The Executive Council is main forum in which Ministers do this.

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The Governor-General receives Cabinet papers relating to items that are considered in Executive Council meetings, as well as items that relates to her constitutional role and a selection of other papers to keep informed of government business.

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
Clerk of the Executive Council