

20 March 2024

File Ref: OIA 48300



Tēnā koe

## **Official Information Act request**

Thank you for your information request dated 8 March 2024. You asked for the following information:

"...I request the following since the current Government was sworn in:

Any briefings provided to a Minister or Ministers to support conversations the Minister(s) has had with representatives of lobbying groups?

 If briefings have been provided, please also provide any related correspondence between or within agencies/departments/ministries and/or with the Minister or their staff.

A copy of any correspondence the Minister's Office forwarded to the Department from representatives of lobbying groups.

According to the Ministry of Justice description of 'lobbying', this request would cover information relating to all 'advocacy activities to influence government policies and decisions'. This description is not intended to exclude groups or individuals but is rather intended to assist in the interpretation of the scope of this request.

Where the information relates to matters that are currently under active consideration by Ministers or Cabinet, I note that the Ombudsman has previously ruled that section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act does not apply to information from external consultants or lobbyists (see Ombudsman case 174587)."

Your request has been considered in accordance with the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

Te Puni Kōkiri has carried out a search of our electronic records and have not identified any information within scope of your request. Accordingly, we are refusing your request under section 18(e) of the Act as the information requested does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

I trust my response satisfies your request.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this response. Information about how to make a complaint is available at <u>www.ombudsman.parliament.nz</u> or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that Te Puni Kōkiri publishes some of its OIA responses on its website, after the response is sent to the requester. The responses published are those that are considered to have a high level of public interest. We will not publish your name, address or contact details.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request with us, including this decision, please feel free to contact us at <u>oia@tpk.govt.nz</u>.

Ngā mihi

Polanni

Paula Rawiri Hautū, Te Puni Kaupapa Here | Deputy Secretary, Policy Partnerships