

9 May 2024

New Zealand Council for Civil Liberties  
fyi-request-26410-88f0b7d2@requests.fyi.org.nz

Our ref: OIA 111348

Tēnā koe

**Official Information Act request: Open Government Partnership National Action Plan**

Thank you for your email of 11 April 2024 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), information relating to New Zealand's Open Government Partnership Fourth National Action Plan. Specifically, you requested:

- 1) Ministry of Justice internal guidance and standards for consultation exercises, including any forms that must be completed by officials deciding whether to consult the public or a more limited number of people or organisations, and whether to use the Ministry's online consultation tools.*
- 2) Any advice, briefings or completed forms in relation to deciding on the form and scope of consultation regarding Commitment 7 of New Zealand's fourth National Action Plan as a member of the Open Government Partnership.*
- 3) A copy of all submissions received in response to the Ministry's recent consultation on Commitment 7 of New Zealand's fourth National Action Plan as a member of the Open Government Partnership.*
- 4) A copy of all correspondence and meetings notes and presentations shared with or received from: the Ombudsman, the Legislative Design Advisory Committee, the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Parliamentary Counsel Office, and the Office of the Clerk regarding Commitment 7 of New Zealand's fourth National Action Plan as a member of the Open Government Partnership.*

In response to part 1 of your request, the information sought does not exist. Therefore, I am refusing this part of your request under section 18(e) of the Act.

In response to part 2, please refer to table 1 below, which details the document in scope of this part of your request and my decisions on its release. Some information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act to protect the privacy of natural persons.

In response to part 3, I can advise that this information will soon be published online. I am, therefore, refusing this part of your request under section 18(d) of the Act. Please refer to [ogp.org.nz/new-zealands-plan/fourth-national-action-plan](http://ogp.org.nz/new-zealands-plan/fourth-national-action-plan), where the information will be published in due course.

In response to part 4, please refer to table 2 below, which details the documents in scope and my decisions on their release. Some information has been withheld under the following provisions of the Act:

- section 9(2)(a) to protect privacy of natural persons and
- section 9(2)(g)(i) to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions.

In withholding information under section 9 I have considered the public interest and do not consider it outweighs withholding the information at this time.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website at: [justice.govt.nz/about/official-information-act-requests/oia-responses/](https://justice.govt.nz/about/official-information-act-requests/oia-responses/).

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act. The Office of the Ombudsman may be contacted by email to [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by phone on 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'E. Douglas', written in a cursive style.

Emily Douglas  
**General Manager (Acting), Civil & Constitutional**

**Table 1: Documents in scope of part 2 of your request**

Document Number	Title	Document type	Date	Comments on release
1	Draft Engagement Plan - Civil Society	Internal Working Draft Document	19/12/2023	Some information withheld under s9(2)(a).

**Table 2: Documents in scope of part 4 of your request**

Document Number	Title	Document type	Date	Comments on release
1	OIA exceptions in legislation	Email with Office of the Ombudsman	9/06/2023	Some information withheld under s9(2)(a).
2	A query - research around exemptions to the OIA	Email with Office of the Clerk	11/12/2023	Some information withheld under s9(2)(a).
3	Meeting with Ombudsman	Draft Meeting Notes	13/12/2023	Some information withheld under s9(2)(g)(i).
4	Assistance with CabGuide connection - Open Government Partnership NAP4	Email with DPMC	20/12/2023	Some information withheld under s9(2)(a).
5	Meeting with Jenny Vickers, DPMC to discuss Cabinet Guide	Draft Meeting Notes	17/01/2024	Released in full.
6	Meeting with Office of the Clerk	Draft Meeting Notes	30/01/2024	Some information withheld under s9(2)(a). *
7	Open Government Partnership Fourth National Action Plan: Commitment 7 – OIA exemptions research summary	Draft document	15/02/2024	Released in full.
8	LDAC meeting notes	Draft Meeting Notes	15/02/2024	Some information withheld under s9(2)(g)(i).
9	Potential for Discussion? - Open Government Partnership - Commitment within the Fourth National Action Plan	Email with PCO	8/03/2024	Some information withheld under s9(2)(a).

10	Update around Commitment 7 of the Open Government Partnership	Email with the Office of the Ombudsman	3/04/2024	Some information withheld under s9(2)(a).
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**\*Please note:** In document number 6 (highlighted), the notes taken by Justice at the meeting suggest that a potential reduction to the Office of the Clerk's budget "could result in the scrutiny initiative being stopped". However, it is important that we clarify that what was actually meant was that a potential budget reduction "could affect capacity for legislative scrutiny advice".