

OGP NAP - Commitment 7: Draft Engagement Plan - Options for Engagement

Purpose

To assess and explore:

- usefulness of different options for improving mechanisms to scrutinise potential OIA exemptions
- the information civil society organisations have access to in relation to OIA exemptions
- potential challenges civil society organisations may face in relation to accessing and using information regarding OIA exemptions

Note – will be undertaking separate conversations with particular agencies including the Ombudsman.

Questions for those being consulted (TBC)

- 1) Is there suitable/adequate guidance for public officials?
- 2) When an OIA exemption is proposed, is this information made available in a way that the public can access/scrutinise it? How easy do you find it to access information about exemptions to the OIA? Where do you currently go to look for the information?
- 3) What role is there for the public or civil society organisations? What role do you consider that civil society organisations should have in OIA exemptions?
- 4) What options might actually be practicable? What mechanism do you consider the most useful for making the process more transparent? What else can you think of?

Who

Engagement should be targeted to those who were involved in the development of Commitment 7 and who have an interest in the improvement of the OIA exemption scrutiny processes. This is due to the targeted scope of this commitment as well as the purpose of this engagement outlined above. It would not meet the needs of either of these aims if the engagement was too broad as it would not achieve the desired result.

Below are the stakeholder contact details of those who submitted on Commitment 7 during its creation. PSC can send introductory email when we are ready.

Organisation	Contact/s	Email
Transparency International NZ	Julie Haggie, CEO	s9(2)(a)

Trust Democracy	Simon Wright, Committee member Maureen Gillon, Committee member	s9(2)(a) https://trustdemocracy.nz/the-committee/
NZ Council of Civil Liberties	Thomas Beagle Andrew Ecclestone	s9(2)(a)
Taxpayers Union	Submission from "Ray Deacon, Economist" for TU	Contact info for TU here
Environment & Conservation organisations of NZ	Cath Wallace is Vice Chair.	Email: eco@eco.org.nz s9(2)(a)

Options for engagement?

- Option 1: Share a version of the Options Paper via email with the contact list above provided and seek feedback on key questions.
 - Informs stakeholders of the progress of the work and the relevant issues.
 - Gives time for consideration of the topic and more informed feedback.
- Option 2: Run an online survey using Citizens Space (an online engagement platform) and advertising via the contact list provided by PSC.
 - A tool could assist with dealing with submissions.
 - However, a lot of administrative work to set up Citizen Space with potentially limited use.
- Option 3: Run an online group engagement session, focused around key questions and written feedback.
 - Achieves goals of OGP to keep civil society stakeholders and actively engaged with the work.
 - Provides an opportunity for both sides to ask questions and discuss.
 - Works to mitigate any risk of one view dominating the conversation or their being unhelpful/non-constructive/negative conversations.
- Option 4: A mix of the above options.

Preferred option

Option 4 i.e. a combination of Option 1 then potentially Option 2.

- Engagement should be targeted to those who have an interest in the continued development of the Commitment. Given the purpose of engagement there is little benefit in broader public engagement.
- An Options Paper should be sent alongside a letter inviting written feedback.

- If necessary and if sufficient interest, then consider an online workshop to discuss the written feedback.
- A group session would be better than individual meetings as would make best use of time and resources.
- This option requires the least amount of set-up i.e. no Citizen Space.
- This option is most appropriate for the small pool of organisations to be engaged with.

Timeline

Early 2024 - mid Feb to mid-March

Two to Four weeks

- Two weeks: Read and consider Options Paper
- Week 3: Written feedback due
- Week 4: If required, online workshop to discuss the written feedback provided.

Cost

There should be no cost to this engagement. If there are any in-person sessions, this would be held at the Justice Centre. There should be no other budget allocation requirements.

Supporting Documentation

- Options Paper: [OGP Commitment 7 Options Paper.docx](#)

RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT 1982