



10 November 2020

Ref: DOIA 2021-0787

John Luke

[fyi-request-13955-e51c0ec0@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-13955-e51c0ec0@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Tēnā koe John,

Thank you for your email of 12 October 2020 to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) the following information:

*"I noted on your website, <http://www.mbie.govt.nz/immigration-and-tourism/tourism/tourism-recovery/tourism-futures-taskforce/> I would like to know your selection process of Tourism Futures Taskforce Advisory Group, how you call for public expression of interest, how many you have shortlisted during the process and what is the term of reference of this Tourism Futures Taskforce Advisory Group. Any meeting minutes for the Tourism Futures Taskforce Advisory Group since its establishment? Also, in particular I would like to know the attendance rate for Lisa Li | China Travel Service and how much you have pay to her so far and expense she has claim."*

The COVID-19 outbreak has had a significant impact on the tourism industry and has provided us with an opportunity to re-think the way we approach tourism. The New Zealand Tourism Futures Taskforce ('the Taskforce') will play a crucial role in leading the thinking of the future of the tourism system in New Zealand. The Taskforce will make bold recommendations to address the environmental, social and economic issues present in the tourism system. The Advisory Group will support the Taskforce by testing solutions and synthesising information to inform the final recommendations.

You can read the Terms of Reference at this link: <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/immigration-and-tourism/tourism/tourism-recovery/tourism-futures-taskforce/terms-of-reference/>. Please note that, as set out in the Terms of Reference for the Taskforce, members of the Advisory Group are invited and appointed by the co-Chairs. The Advisory Group membership includes representatives from a cross-section of New Zealand's public and private sectors, and also includes members from sectors indirectly impacted by tourism. Although there was no formal public expression of interest process, approximately 77 nominations were considered as possible candidates for the Advisory Group. The Advisory Group has had several workshops, although minutes are not taken.

There have been three Advisory Group workshops and Lisa Li has attended all of the workshops. Please note that, as set out in the invitation letter for the Advisory Group that forms part of the documents released to you today, members will not be remunerated for their participation. Although the Taskforce

Secretariat agreed to cover travel, accommodation and travel costs, Lisa Li has not incurred any expenses because the Advisory Group workshops has been conducted online due to COVID-19.

MBIE has identified documents within the scope of your request which are detailed in the document schedule. Some information within this document has been redacted as out of scope, or withheld under the following sections of the Act:

9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.

In terms of section 9(1) of the Act, I am satisfied that, in the circumstances, the withholding of this information is not outweighed by other considerations that render it desirable to make the information available in the public interest.

I trust you find the information helpful. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of my decision to withhold information relating to this request, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Davies', written over a light grey rectangular background.

**Richard Davies**  
Policy Director,  
Tourism Branch

## Document schedule

### Documents released with some information withheld

Date	Description
<b>Documentation on the Tourism Futures Taskforce Advisory Group</b>	
7 July 2020	Email on behalf of the New Zealand Tourism Futures Taskforce to the Tourism Futures Taskforce  Attachment:  Advisory Group Invitation letter