

1 October 2021

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OIA 27584

Tēnā koe Virginia Crawford

I refer to your email of 23 July 2021 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

Formal briefings related to Agenda 2030 sent to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and, or the Office of the Prime Minister over the past 12 months.

The information relevant to your request is attached. We have withheld some information under the following sections of the OIA:

- 6(a): to avoid prejudicing the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the New Zealand Government;
- 9(2)(a): to protect individuals' privacy;
- 9(2)(ba): to protect the supply of confidential information by another party; and
- 9(2)(g)(i): to protect the free and frank expression of opinions by departments.

Where the information has been withheld under section 9 of the OIA, we have identified no public interest in releasing the information that would override the reasons for withholding it.

A number of sections within the information being released are out of scope of your request. Two draft Cabinet papers on New Zealand's engagement in the Pacific, including our development cooperation, are also in scope of this request. Both papers are withheld in full under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Official Information Act. If endorsed by Cabinet, these papers may be proactively released on MFAT's website in due course.

The 'New Zealand's aid programme' section of the 2020 Briefing to the Incoming Minister of Foreign Affairs, in particular pages 42 and 47 are in scope of this request. As indicated in our previous correspondence, this material can be found on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade website at: <https://www.mfat.govt.nz/assets/About-us-Corporate/MFAT-corporate-publications/Briefings-to-incoming-Ministers/Briefing-for-incoming-Minister-of-Foreign-Affairs-2020.pdf>.

Please note that we may publish this letter (with your personal details redacted) and enclosed documents on the Ministry's website.

If you have any questions about this decision, you can contact us by email at: DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision by contacting www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



Julie-Anne Lee
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade