

Hon Damien O'Connor

MP for West Coast-Tasman

Minister of Agriculture
Minister for Biosecurity
Minister for Land Information
Minister for Rural Communities
Minister for Trade and Export Growth



MinOIA21-103

20 August 2021

John Luke

Via email: fyi-request-16228-e5768ed5@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear John Luke

Thank you for your email of 27 June 2021 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

I would like to request a list of vacancy (ministerial appointment only, e.g. board member, Lay member, Trustee, member of working group etc) that the nomination period has been closed but still under consideration within your ministerial responsibility, I am in particular interested in the area of Minister of Agriculture and Minister for Trade and Export Growth.

In your list, can you please included the date that vacancy been advertised, what method you have used to publicly advertise the position and when the vacancy been closed as well. Also, I would like to know if you decided to have any future opening in 2021. e.g. the position that will call for public nomination in the year of 2021"

There are currently no vacant board appointments within my ministerial responsibility as Minister of Agriculture. There are also no future board appointments within that portfolio requiring public nomination in 2021. Therefore, as I do not hold the information, your request in this regard is refused under Section 18(g) of the OIA; *that the information requested is not held by the department or venture or Minister of the Crown or organisation.*

Within my responsibility as Minister for Trade and Export Growth, I hold joint responsibility for New Zealand Trade and Enterprise (NZTE) and the New Zealand Story Group (which for administrative purposes sits within NZTE) with the Minister for Economic and Regional Development. NZTE's monitoring agency is the Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE). MBIE manages the appointments process for both the NZTE and New Zealand Story Group Boards on behalf of both appointing Ministers (myself under the Trade and Export Growth and the Minister for Economic and Regional Development).

NZTE and the New Zealand Story Group have the following Board appointments in the scope of your request, currently being managed by MBIE:

Board	Position Board Member, Lay Member or Trustee	Date Open	Date closed	Candidates still under consideration Yes / No
NZTE	Chair Members	15 February 2021	28 February 2021	Yes
NZ Story Advisory Board	3 private member roles	1 March 2021	19 March 2021	Yes

The methods used to advertise these vacancies were:

Entity	Method of advertisement
NZTE	Publicly Advertised – MBIE’s website’s Careers Portal and Current Board Vacancies page, Jobs.govt.nz and Seek.co.nz.
NZ Story Advisory Board	Specialist recruitment – MBIE directly approached a select number of candidates with highly specialised skill sets to apply. This is only done in exceptional circumstances, where the approach is the effective way to recruit for a role.

Future appointments expected in 2021 for NZTE and the NZ Story Group are provided in the 2021/22 Parliamentary Estimates Examination questions for Vote Business Science and Innovation under question 197 on page 83, available at: [2021/22 Estimates Examination Vote Business, Science and Innovation \(www.parliament.nz\)](http://www.parliament.nz) . Estimates answers published every year will list the future appointments expected in the coming year under the relevant portfolio.

For your information, I recently appointed 13 members to the newly established Trade for All Ministerial Advisory Group – you can see my announcement on the Beehive website here: <https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/broad-perspectives-inform-trade-all-agenda>.

These appointments were considered by the Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee in June.

I trust the information provided is of assistance. You are advised of your right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision by contacting info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Hon Damien O'Connor
Minister of Agriculture
Minister for Trade and Export Growth