DEPARTMENT of the PRIME MINISTER and CABINET



19 May 2014

Ms Grace Haden

Email: <u>fyi-request-1660-a866e556@requests.fyi.org.nz</u> fyi-request-1661-977ab572@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Ms Haden

Official Information Act Request for Information Relating to the New Zealand Business and Parliament Trust

I refer to your two requests of 7 May 2014 sent via the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) website. Both requests were headed "OIA Request" and related to the New Zealand Business and Parliament Trust (NZBPT). You stated that "the New Zealand Business and Parliament Trust has a number of members of parliament assigned to their fee paying members www.nzbpt.org.nz/about-us/associate-membership" and raised the following questions:

- "Do members of parliament partake in this relationship as a consequence to any legislation. If so what act and section facilitates this relationship?
- Who appoints the MP to the respective companies is this done through the trust or by Government.
- Is this organization the same as what is called the cabinet club. If not is there a cabinet club and how does one join.
- Could you please consider a similar trust which runs along the same lines as the New Zealand Business and Parliament Trust but with regards to corruption. The objectives would be to educate MPs with regards to corruption. We would send MPs out into the community to visit families who have been the victims of corruption so that he ministers can better understand this concept. We would also ensure that those who wish to raise issues of corruption have direct access to ministers so that they can meet minister and make them aware of the various forms of corruption. I am willing to become the settlor of such a trust the deed would be along the lines of the business and parliamentary trust. Please advise how we could go about setting this up and who do we liaise with?
- If we set up the anti corruption trust could you also please facilitate our presence in Parliament by making an office available to us too at the same rental as the New Zealand Business and Parliament Trust which According to charity records pays about \$100 per week.
- Please advise who we must speak to, to get the same facilities as they have been given, please provide a copy of their contract?"

I can confirm that DPMC does not hold the information you have sought in your request and does not have a role with either the administration of NZBPT or access to Parliamentary facilities. Neither am I aware of any crown organisation or department subject to the Official

Information Act that may hold the information you have sought. Accordingly, your request is formally declined under section 18(g) of the Official Information Act on the grounds "That the information requested is not held by the department or Minister of the Crown or organisation and the person dealing with the request has no grounds for believing that the information is either-

(i) Held by another Department or Minister of the Crown or organisation, or a local authority; or

(ii) Connected more closely with the functions of another Department or Minister of the Crown or organisation or of a local authority."

The first three questions in your request raise matters directly about the NZBPT. As a charitable trust the NZBPT is not subject to the Official Information Act. However, this part of your correspondence has been referred to the NZBPT for response.

The remainder of your request appears to be seeking access to facilities at Parliament. Any requests for the use of Parliament facilities should be made to the Office of the Speaker. You can contact the Speaker's Office either via the relevant contact form on the Parliament website at: www.parliament.nz or by writing to the Office of the Speaker at Parliament Buildings, Wellington. You should note that functions to be held at Parliament are sponsored by a sitting Member of Parliament

You are entitled to ask the Ombudsman to review this response under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act.

Yours sincerely

John Subritzky

Director - Office of the Chief Executive