

# Hon Nanaia Mahuta

MP for Hauraki-Waikato

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control

Associate Minister for Māori Development



Dear Harwood Wilson

Thank you for your email on 21<sup>st</sup> Jan 2023.

Firstly I would like to apologise for not responding within the required timeframe. There has been a significant change in my office due to recent events, and your request was not processed as it should have been.

In your email you requested the following information.

*I request information as below for all records between 1 Sept 2022 to 22 January 2023:*

- 1. All email records between the office of Nanaia Mahuta and the Office of PM.*
- 2. All email records between the office of Nanaia Mahuta and her family members (at all known levels of relation) that have government or local body roles.*
- 3. All email records between the office of Nanaia Mahuta and Jacinda Ardern.*
- 4. All text phone messages between the office of Nanaia Mahuta and Jacinda Ardern.*

For the first request “All email records between the office of Nanaia Mahuta and the Office of PM” your request is refused under Section 18(f) of the Act, on the grounds that it would take substantial collation by my available office staff.

On the second request for “All email records between the office of Nanaia Mahuta and her family members (at all known levels of relation) that have government or local body roles” I am refusing your request under section 18(g) of the Act, on the grounds that the information does not exist.

On the third request, “All email records between the office of Nanaia Mahuta and Jacinda Ardern.” I consider that the proceeding request covers this request for “All email records between the office of Nanaia Mahuta and the Office of PM”, and therefore, the decision for that initial request would also apply.

Finally, on the remaining request, “All text phone messages between the office of Nanaia Mahuta and Jacinda Ardern”, this is refused under section 9(2)(g)(i) of the ACT, as I consider these to be free and frank expressions of opinion in nature.

You have the right, under section 28(3) of the Act, to seek an review by the Office of the Ombudsman. The postal address of the Office of the Ombudsman is PO Box 10152, Wellington. Alternatively, you can phone 0800 802 602 or email [info@ombudsman.parliament.govt.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.govt.nz).

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. C. Mahuta'.

Hon Nanaia Mahuta

**Minister of Foreign Affairs**

**Minister of Disarmament and Arms Control**

**Associate Minister for Māori Development**