

Hon Peeni Henare

MP for Tāmaki Makaurau

Minister for ACC

Minister of Tourism

Minister for Whānau Ora

Associate Minister for the Environment

Associate Minister of Health (Māori Health)



30 MAR 2023

Harris Leigh

fyi-request-21974-8391c277@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Harris

Thank you for your Official Information Act request, received on 2 March 2023. You requested:

Under the OIA I seek copies of any advice you hold relating to the application of the Code of Conduct for Crown Entity Members (<https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/guidance/code-of-conduct-for-crown-entity-board-members>) to the writings of the current Chair of the ACC.

I also seek any information held relating to comments by the ACC Chair such as:

"The previous National government had to deal with an unanticipated event of their own in the form of the 2008 Global Financial Crisis. They got the books back in balance but at the cost of ignoring almost everything else."

And "Labour is the battle-hardened team that can get the job done."

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/politics/opinion/300788564/without-covid-labour-would-have-made-more-progress>

"In other words, if it is change voters want, they need look no further than the current Government."

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/politics/opinion/300711880/the-2023-general-election-will-be-about-who-can-fix-things>

"This is where Trump, Johnson, Morrison, and other assorted clowns come into play" [referring to conservative leaders of the USA, UK and Australia]

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/opinion/300641842/extreme-politics-are-not-the-answer-even-if-theyre-tempting>

I also seek any information you might hold on whether the preponderance of political comments by a Crown Entity board member may create an impression of political partisanship even if any one comment is excusable.

My Office and officials have searched their records and have not found a document within the scope of your request, however, I have provided a letter which was shared with me on **Tuesday 7 March 2023**.

The letter attached is from the Public Service Commissioner to the Minister for the Public Service, Hon Andrew Little, which ruled on the investigation into the actions of the ACC Chair, Mr Steve Maharey.

This reply addresses the information you requested. You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Peeni Henare', with a large, stylized initial 'P'.

Hon Peeni Henare
Minister for ACC