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Michael Fleck

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Ref: H2023026424

Tēnā koe Michael

### **Response to your request for official information**

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to Manatū Hauora (the Ministry of Health) on 2 June 2023 for information regarding current lobbyists from telecommunications industry. You requested:

*“Please provide the names of the lobbyists from Spark, One/Vodafone and 2degrees who are currently consulting with the Ministry on the safety of new wireless technology (e.g., 5G, Bluetooth), including those who are liaising with the Interagency Committee on the Health Effects of Non-Ionising Fields.”*

I can confirm that there are no lobbyists from Spark, One/Vodafone and 2degrees who are currently consulting with Manatū Hauora on the safety of new wireless technology, or with the Interagency Committee on the Health Effects of Non-Ionising Fields (the Committee). As such, your request is refused under section 18(e) of the act as the information requested does not exist.

However, the Committee does have one member from the telecommunications industry, Ben Blakemore, an employee of 2degrees. His role on the committee arose from involvement in community engagement about mobile cell site deployment, for which radio-frequency matters are often a point of interest. Please note, his role on the Committee is not explicitly as a 2degrees representative, rather a representative for the Telecommunications Carriers Forum. If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request with us, including this decision, please feel free to contact the OIA Services Team on: [oiagr@health.govt.nz](mailto:oiagr@health.govt.nz).

Under section 28(3) of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by calling 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



Dr Andrew Old  
**Deputy Director-General**  
**Public Health Agency | Te Pou Hauora Tūmatanui**