



**Te Tari Taiwhenua
Internal Affairs**

1 September 2023

Ministerial Services
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Cam Slater
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Dear Cam Slater

Official Information Act request (OIA 2324-0080)

I refer to your request for information dated 27 July 2023 made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. Your request was then transferred to the Department of Internal Affairs (the Department). You requested the following information:

I request the following:

- *any recordings made on any device by Tom Peoples including recordings made of ministers, MPs, staffers and members of the public in the months of April and May 2023.*
- *any details of any disciplinary action involving these recordings*
- *copies of any complaints by staff or politicians about Tom Peoples recordings and the responses to those complaints.*

For the avoidance of doubt this request covers actual recording files in whatever format, ALL correspondence, diary notes, aide memoires or any documentation including written and electronic correspondence including emails, as well as phone, txt, and other messaging apps including but not limited to Signal and Whatsapp.

Please acknowledge receipt of this request, and please provide electronic copies of each file covered by this request.

Response to your request

The Department can confirm that in the months of April and May 2023, there are two recordings that fall within the scope of your request. These recordings and any other information associated with the recordings are withheld in full under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, as the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons.

As is required by section 9(1) of the Act, I have considered where necessary whether the grounds for withholding information under section 9(2) as set out in this response letter are outweighed by other considerations which would make it desirable, in the public interest, to make that information available. In this instance, I do not consider that to be the case.

We may publish this OIA response on www.dia.govt.nz (with your personal details having been removed). Publishing responses to OIA requests increases the availability of information to the public and is consistent with the purpose of the Act to enable effective participation in the making and administration of laws and policies, and to promote the accountability of Ministers and officials.

If you have any concerns with the information in this response, you have a right to request an investigation and review by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act. Information on how to do this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Briget Ridden
General Manager – Ministerial Services
Te Haumi – Enterprise Partnerships
Te Tari Taiwhenua – The Department of Internal Affairs