

4 September 2023

Nic Lane

By email: fyi-request-23878-83015187@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Nic

Request for information related to the Easy Read translation of Creative New Zealand's funding agreement

I refer to your official information request, dated 18 August 2023, for all communications with the Ministry of Social Development over the last six months (18 February to 18 August 2023) regarding the translation of Creative New Zealand's funding agreement into the Easy Read alternative format.

We've considered your request under the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982 ('the Act'), which is based on the principle that information held by government agencies should be made available on request unless there is good reason for withholding it.

The information requested is summarised in **Appendix 1**. The correspondence is attached as **Appendix 2**.

We have decided to release the documents subject to information being withheld under the following sections of the Act.

- **Section 9(2)(a)**: to protect the privacy of natural persons. A limited amount of personal information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act as we believe it is 'necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons'.
- **Section 9(2)(b)(ii)**: where releasing information would likely unreasonably prejudice the commercial position of the organisation who supplied it. This relates to information and indicative costs for alternative format providers.

We do not believe withholding this information is outweighed by the public interest, in accordance with section 9(1) of the Act.

Please note Creative New Zealand contacted People First regarding the translation of the funding agreement in early March 2023, prior to engaging with the Ministry of Social Development. As noted in the correspondence with the Ministry of Social Development, the advice we received directly from People First is consistent with the position taken by the Ministry of Social Development. Both agencies recommend the creation of an Easy Read summary guide to support understanding of the funding agreement, rather than an Easy Read translation of the funding agreement, due to difficulties in translating legal agreements. The same advice from People First was shared with you in a meeting with our Senior Manager, Arts Development Services on 3 May 2023.

You have the right under section 28(3) of the Act to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss this information request, please get in touch with Kate Adolph via email to:
kate.adolph@creativenz.govt.nz

Nāku iti noa, nā



Elizabeth Beale
Acting Senior Manager, Strategy & Engagement
Pou Whakahaere Matua, Rautaki me te Tūhono