

J Floyd
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26 September 2023

Dear J Floyd

OIA 23-24-07: GOLF AND TRAVEL

Thank you for your email of 29 August to New Zealand Trade and Enterprise (NZTE), making a request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). You requested the following information:

Since 1 January 2021, how many rounds of golf, counting 9-hole rounds as one round, has Dylan Lawrence played while on work funded travel? Please include both scored rounds and those where other formats were used (e.g. ambrose, teams, rounds played but score not kept). This would include rounds at events such as at NZPCA conferences and hosting delegations.

Please provide this information by year and by location.

What is NZTE's policy for golfing during work time or during funded travel?

Answers to your questions are as follows:

NZTE does not keep a record of the information you request and does not hold information on the number of holes or format of golf played by staff members. We are therefore refusing this part of your request under Section 18(e) of the Act on the grounds that the information doesn't exist, but include the below information for context.

On occasion Dylan Lawrence travels for work-related domestic private capital events (such as the New Zealand Private Capital Conference in Queenstown). During these conferences/events, golf is sometimes part of broader engagement activities, and from time-to-time, Dylan Lawrence will participate with others in those activities.

NZTE does not have a specific policy on golf. Our policy states we do not normally cover costs for leisure activities. When such an activity is integrated with a work event, with network benefits, then this is considered a legitimate part of the engagement. The example mentioned above is viewed as a work-related activity.

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

Yours sincerely



Melissa Trochon
Director – Board & Ministerial