

J Floyd
fyi-request-25017-e4fca811@requests.fyi.org.nz



20 December 2023

Dear J Floyd,

OIA 23-24-27: Confirmation of Golf Played on Work Travel

Thank you for your email of 13 November 2023 to New Zealand Trade and Enterprise (NZTE), making a request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). On 23 November 2023, you sent a follow-up email clarifying details in your initial request. This follow-up clarification reset the response timeframe for the request making the new due date, 21 December.

You requested the following information:

I have found online details of Dylan Lawrence's golf activity while on work travel. Please confirm the following is correct:

- 19 Jan 21, flew to Queenstown on NZTE funded flight for a HNWI event.
- 20 Jan – played a full round at Millbrook.
- 21 Jan – played a full round at Millbrook.
- 23 Jan – left Queenstown.
- 9 May 21, flew to Queenstown on NZTE funded flight for an investment Lead Team meeting.
- 10 May, played a full round at Arrowtown.
- Flew to Nelson (please confirm the date of travel).
- 14 May, played a full round at Nelson Golf Club.
- 14 May – left Nelson.
- 5 July 21, flew to Nelson on NZTE funded flight for an Investment Lead Team meeting.
- 5 July, played golf at Nelson golf club.
- 6 July, played golf at Nelson golf club.
- 9 July – left Nelson.

*What proportion of Dylan Lawrence's groups were NZTE employees?
Are there any other blocks of travel where Dylan has spent 40% or more of the days visiting golf courses?*

Just to add some clarification regarding the "Investment Lead team meeting" travel. Please confirm that the golf was part of Dylan's "broader engagement activities". Were any non-NZTE people playing with Dylan?

Answers to your questions are as follows:

Confirmation of Dylan Lawrence's NZTE funded flights in 2021 are publicly available online, via FYI.org, in NZTE's responses to [OIA 22-23-55](#) and [OIA 22-23-66](#). As for Dylan's travel from Queenstown to Nelson, this took place on 13 May 2021.

In response to your other questions, as stated in [OIA 23-24-07](#), NZTE does not store records regarding rounds of golf played by staff members, and therefore is declining this part of your request under Sections 18(e) and 18(g) of the Act on the grounds that the information does not exist.

The language used and line of questioning of your requests indicate that you may have a grievance with NZTE and/or the Investment team. If that is the case, we would welcome a more constructive engagement with you on your concerns.

We seek to understand more about the questions you have asked in this and previous Official Information Act requests. If you are open to engaging with us in conversation to share your concerns, while still retaining your anonymity, we would appoint an independent third-party to facilitate a conversation with the aim to help us learn more about your concerns and provide timely responses. The options for this third party include:

1. NZTE-funded independent mediator – contact civiladr@fairwayresolution.com or 0800 77 44 08 and quote reference number SR#053666\
2. A mediator of your choice.

If you are open to this approach, we'd be grateful if you could advise a preferred option.

If you remain concerned with this, you have the right under section 28(3) of the Act to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information on how to make a complaint is available at <https://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz> or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Melissa Trochon
Director – Board & Ministerial