

13 December 2023

James

By email: fyi-request-25128-62f50643@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear James

LGOIMA REQUEST FOR INFORMATION RELATED TO AUCKLAND WAR MEMORIAL MUSEUM'S MEETING AND COMMUNICATIONS WITH CHLOE SWARBRICK MP

I refer to your request under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 ('LGOIMA') as follows:

In early November, Auckland Central MP Chloe Swarbrick attended a rally at the Auckland Domain where she publicly stated she would hold the Museum accountable for lighting the building in the colours of Israel in a show of solidarity. As such, under the OIA I kindly request the following:

All communications between Swarbrick and Museum staff, board members or representatives concerning either Israel/Palestine/Gaza. This should include but not be limited to emails, texts, phone calls, social media interactions etc.

All meeting minutes, discussion points, outcomes, and meeting attendees.

Information related to meeting with Chloe Swarbrick MP

On 16 November 2023 the Museum's Chief Executive David Reeves and I met with Ms Swarbrick. I am releasing to you all correspondence between the Museum, Ms Swarbrick, and Ms Swarbrick's office that the Museum holds in relation to this meeting. In addition to the written correspondence there were two phone calls from a Museum staff member to Ms Swarbrick to facilitate setting up this meeting. These phone calls were on Wednesday 18 October and Wednesday 8 November. The Museum did not take any minutes or discussion points for this meeting. However the meeting is summarised in reports to the Museum Trust Board. I am releasing those to you.

All information is **attached**. Redactions have been made to protect the privacy of natural persons in accordance with s.7(2)(a) LGOIMA. All redactions are on those grounds with the exception of other information that is out of scope of your request (and noted accordingly in the materials).

A staff member from Ms Swarbrick's Auckland electorate office was also present at the 16 November meeting. I am declining to release the name of that person in accordance with s.7(2)(a) LGOIMA.

Where we have withheld information under s.7(2)(a) we have considered whether the public interest outweighs the reasons for withholding and determined that it does not.

Other correspondence between any Museum representatives and Chloe Swarbrick concerning Israel / Palestine / Gaza

There were two phone calls from a Museum staff member to Ms Swarbrick to facilitate setting up a meeting. These were on Wednesday 18 October and Wednesday 8 November. We are not aware of any communications between Ms Swarbrick and senior Museum representatives other than those communications related to the meeting on 16 November and released to you here. The Museum currently does not have the technological capability to search all email accounts at once, nor all mobile phone calls or text messages across the organisation. We can however carry out more focused searches on smaller numbers of Museum representatives' accounts. Please let me know if you wish to refocus this part of your request, otherwise we will likely need to refuse it on the grounds of substantial collation and research (s.17(f) LGOIMA).

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of our decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J Liddell', written in a cursive style.

James Liddell
External Relations Manager