



27 February 2024

John Luke

fyi-request-25351-e02e65bb@requests.fyi.org.nz

DOIA 2324-1429

Tēnā koe John,

Thank you for your email of 9 January 2024 to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following:

Dear Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment, I would like to request the following information:

- 1. The date, time and location of your initial meeting with the new Immigration Minister for your department.*
- 2. A list of attendees at this meeting*
- 3. The cost of any flights and accommodation for staff who reside outside of wellington to attend this meeting.*
- 4. Any documentation provided at the meeting.*
- 5. All notes (including handwritten notes) taken at the meeting by department staff.*
- 6. A copy of any emails sent by department attendees or all staff communications regarding the meeting with the new Minister.*

On 13 February 2024, MBIE wrote to advise you that we had decided to extend the timeframe available to make a decision on your request under section 15A(1)(b) of the Act, as the consultations necessary to make a decision on your request were such that a proper response cannot reasonably be made within the original time limit.

Our Response

Question 1

The first meeting between MBIE officials and the current Minister of Immigration, Hon Erica Stanford, was held at 3:30pm Wednesday 29 November 2023 at the Beehive building in Wellington.

Question 2

The attendees at this meeting were Carolyn Tremain, Alison McDonald, Suzanne Stew, Nic Blakeley, and Jivan Grewal.

Question 3

All attendees were in Wellington already which meant there were no travel or accommodation costs incurred for this meeting.

Question 4

Please note that advice requested from Minister Stanford was collated prior to the meeting and sent to attendees, but this was not provided at the meeting. One document was provided at the meeting. MBIE will release this document to you, but it will take some time to prepare it for some release, and it will be

provided to you in due course. Please note some information may be withheld under the following sections of the Act:

- 6(a), as the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the security or defence of New Zealand, or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand.
- 6(b)(i), as the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the entrusting of information to the Government of New Zealand on a basis of confidence- by:
 - (i) the Government of any other country or any agency of such a government; or
 - (ii) any international organisation.
- 6(c), as the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the maintenance of the law, including the investigation, and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial.
- 9(2)(a), as the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.
- 9(2)(b)(ii), as the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who was subject to the information.
- 9(2)(f)(iv), as the withholding of the information is necessary to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered to Ministers of the Crown and officials.

Question 5-6

Please refer to the attached appendix for information within scope of these parts of your request.

Please note that some information has been withheld under the following sections of the Act:

- 9(2)(a), as the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.
- 9(2)(f)(iv), as the withholding of the information is necessary to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered to Ministers of the Crown and officials.

Some information has also been marked as outside the scope of your request.

You have the right 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 any aspect of your request or this response, or if you require any further assistance, please contact inzoias@mbie.govt.nz

Nāku noa, nā



Catriona Robinson
Associate Deputy Secretary Immigration
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment