Hon Dr Shane Reti

Minister of Health Minister for Pacific Peoples



Hugh J Coon

By email: fyi-request-27227-0eada9ed@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: SROIA-135

Tēnā koe Hugh

RESPONSE TO AN OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

Thank you for your email of 11 June 2024 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), information relating to an appointment to the Arts Council of New Zealand Toi Aotearoa – Creative NZ. I have outlined your specific request and my responses to each guestion below.

- 1. I am requesting any and all correspondence you had on the appointment of Janitta Pilisi to Creative NZ board /any other appointment. Any correspondence between you and her, or about her with other MPs, National Party officials and bureaucrats etc.
- 2. Please make sure you including the decision making materials you received in relation to the appointment please and advice on conflict of interest etc, all information received pertaining to the appointment.
- 3. Please name those consulted with and all correspondence relating to preparation of this OIA reply.

Seven documents have been identified within the scope of your request and released to you with with some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA to protect the privacy of natural persons.

On 19 June 2024, your request was partially transferred from my Office to Minister Goldsmith as some of the information is more closely connected with the functions of the Office of Arts, Culture and Heritage.

4. Please name where the nomination for Ms Janita Pillisi was made. DOIA24/073 stated "A list of 14 candidates was compiled and one candidate was shortlisted and interviewed. Candidates were compiled by searching the Manatū Taonga register of nominations, seeking nominations from Government population agencies and caucus colleagues. We received 18 nominations from the population agencies for positions on the Arts Council, including this position." Was it a caucus nomination, please provide all correspondence relating to it This includes any judgement in relation to her role as a National Party Director.

I expect that Minister Goldsmith will respond to this part of your request in due course.

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You have the right, under section 28 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.

Naku noā, nā-

Jonathan Franklin

Senior Ministerial Advisor