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James

No address provided

**Via email:** James <fyi-request-27532-edc95d92@requests.fyi.org.nz>

16 July 2024

Kia ora James

### Official Information Act request dated 7 July 2024

We refer to your email dated 7 July 2024 requesting information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the **Act**). The answers to your specific questions are set out below.

**Request 1:** Please provide the names of the TVNZ executives who attended the meeting on the 16/05/2024 that started at approximately 9:40pm and concluded at around 11:30pm. Who was the meeting with?

Please provide all texts, emails and correspondence if any, relating to this meeting.

### Response 1:

TVNZ attendees at this meeting were:

- Nevak Rogers, Chief Content Officer; and
- Josh Wolfe, GM Commercial.

The meeting was with three television producers to discuss potential future opportunities. The names of the producers have been withheld on the bases of section 9(2)(a), s9(2)(b) and 9(2)(i) of the Act: to protect the privacy of the relevant producers, and to protect information where the making available of the information (TVNZ's potential future plans) would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of TVNZ and/or the relevant producers, and to enable TVNZ and those producers to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities i.e. meeting with potential future partners.

Ahead of the LA Screenings event, the relevant TVNZ team members discussed which producers might be in LA during the event period and agreed that Nevak Rogers would reach out to a selection of those producers. Messages between Ms Rogers and those producers have been withheld on the following grounds:

- Section 9(2)(a) of the Act: to protect the privacy of relevant producers;

- Section 9(2)(b) of the Act: to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information;
- Section 9(2)(g) of the Act: to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by members of an organisation in the course of their duty; and
- Section 9(2)(i) of the Act: to enable TVNZ to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.

**Request 2:** Please provide the names of the TVNZ executives who attended the meeting on the 19/05/2024 that started at around 10:15pm. What time did the meeting conclude and who was the meeting with?

Please provide all texts, emails, and correspondence if any relating to this meeting.

**Response 2:** This request relates to an uber fare returning to the Sofitel Hotel from the Paramount Screening per the attached itinerary. TVNZ attendees at this Screening were:

- Jodi O'Donnell, CEO
- Nevak Rogers, Chief Content Officer; and
- Josh Wolfe, GM Commercial.

Relevant correspondence is attached.

**Request 3:** Please provide the names of the TVNZ executives who attended the meeting beginning at approximately 8:45pm on the 18/05/2024 and concluded the next morning at approximately 12:35am.

Please provide details on who this meeting was with and all texts, emails and correspondence, if any relating to this meeting.:

- Nevak Rogers, Chief Content Officer; and
- Josh Wolfe, GM Commercial.

**Response 3:** TVNZ attendees at this meeting were:

- Jodi O'Donnell, CEO
- Nevak Rogers, Chief Content Officer; and
- Josh Wolfe, GM Commercial.

This meeting was a dinner function with a group of New Zealand producers and directors. It was arranged during the course of the LA Screenings event, so no formal correspondence exists.



**Request 4:** Please provide the names of the TVNZ executives who attended the meeting at approximately 4:30pm on the 23/05/2024, who the meeting was with and all texts, emails and correspondence if any, relating to this meeting.

**Response 4:** This request relates to an uber fare for:

- Jodi O'Donnell, CEO
- Nevak Rogers, Chief Content Officer; and
- Josh Wolfe, GM Commercial.

There is no meeting that relates to this fare, and no correspondence, but for clarity, the expense is well within TVNZ's Travel and Expenditure Policies.

In accordance with the Act's principle of transparency and to assist with your request, we have enclosed the itinerary for the LA screenings event. As you will see from that itinerary, the three TVNZ attendees were away from home for 7-8 days and were typically working from 7:30am until late in the evening each day. You have already been provided with a spreadsheet setting out total spending. As you will have seen from that spreadsheet, excluding flights, accommodation, and visas, the total expense claim for all three TVNZ attendees was a little over US\$600. That figure **includes** two business events.

It may also be relevant to your request that although TVNZ is owned by the Crown, it operates as a self-funded Crown entity company by virtue of the Television New Zealand Act 2003. In FY23 only 1.5% of our funding came from public funds: all of this was contestable programme funding from NZ on Air and *Te Māngai Pāho*.

Please note that section 28 of the Act sets out the circumstances in which you may make a complaint to the Ombudsman in order to seek an investigation and review of this decision.

Yours sincerely,

Official Information Requests Team  
TVNZ