



# Te Kawa Mataaho

Public Service Commission

18 December 2024

New Zealand Council for Civil Liberties  
[fyi-request-28987-4dd8cb99@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-28987-4dd8cb99@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear New Zealand Council for Civil Liberties

## Official Information Request Our Ref: PSCR 2024-0010

I refer to your official information request received on 30 October 2024 where you asked:

*“The Commission listed two pieces of advice that it was withholding:*

*Item 1: Document 2023-0321 dated 20 December 2023 Item 2: Document 2024-0040 dated 15 February 2024*

*The New Zealand Council for Civil Liberties requests:*

- 1. the titles of these documents; and*
- 2. a copy of both these documents.*

*The Council also requests:*

- 3. copies of all other advice provided by the Commission to the Minister for the Public Service about the Open Government Partnership since 23 November 2023, including but not limited to the Commission’s advice to the Minister about responding to the joint letter to the Minister from civil society organisations dated 13 May 2024 and the draft response letter that it provided to the Minister*

*(<https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fnzcl.org.nz%2Fcsos-call-for-dedicated-ogp-funding%2F&data=05%7C02%7Ccommission%40publicservice.govt.nz%7C2a038bc1a87a4dae43408dcf89cc620%7C41e14a91587d4fbf8dead6aea7148019%7C0%7C0%7C638658600645757003%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQljoiv2luMzliLCJBTil6lk1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C80000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=cVWu9bb2FBQ3PYa5mt3X1z1yf2Fg2fA%2BekkB6RYY2%2B0%3D&reserved=0>); and*

*4. the titles and dates of all the documents falling within (3) above if the documents themselves are withheld; and*

- 5. for any meeting with the Minister for the Public Service at which the Open Government Partnership discussed, the notes taken by Commission officials at or after any meeting with the Minister that relate to that part of the meeting; and*

- 6. all internal memoranda, advice or briefings on (i) membership of the Open Government Partnership, (ii) creation of a multi-stakeholder forum, (iii) creation of the fifth National Action Plan.”.*

## Information publicly available

Please find listed in the table below, advice provided to the Minister for the Public Service relating to the Open Government Partnership (OGP) which is publicly available on Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission’s (the Commission’s) website at the links provided in the table below.

Item	Date	Document Description	Website address
1	20 December 2023	2023-0321 – REPORT – New Zealand’s future approach to the Open Government Partnership	<a href="https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/assets/DirectoryFile/Report-New-Zealands-future-approach-to-the-Open-Government-Partnership.pdf">https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/assets/DirectoryFile/Report-New-Zealands-future-approach-to-the-Open-Government-Partnership.pdf</a>
2	15 February 2024	2024-0040 – REPORT – Further advice on New Zealand’s future approach to the Open Government Partnership	<a href="https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/assets/DirectoryFile/Report-Further-advice-on-New-Zealands-future-approach-to-the-Open-Government-Partnership.pdf">https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/assets/DirectoryFile/Report-Further-advice-on-New-Zealands-future-approach-to-the-Open-Government-Partnership.pdf</a>
3	19 March 2024	2024-0089 – REPORT – Progressing the option to withdraw from the Open Government Partnership	<a href="https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/assets/DirectoryFile/Report-Progressing-the-option-to-withdraw-from-the-Open-Government-Partnership.pdf">https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/assets/DirectoryFile/Report-Progressing-the-option-to-withdraw-from-the-Open-Government-Partnership.pdf</a>
4	8 April 2024	2024-0104 – REPORT - Approval to consult on draft Cabinet paper proposing New Zealand withdraw from the Open Government Partnership	<a href="https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/assets/DirectoryFile/Report-Approval-to-consult-on-draft-Cabinet-paper-proposing-New-Zealand-withdraw-from-the-Open-Government-Partnership.pdf">https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/assets/DirectoryFile/Report-Approval-to-consult-on-draft-Cabinet-paper-proposing-New-Zealand-withdraw-from-the-Open-Government-Partnership.pdf</a>
5	1 August 2024	2024-0190 – REPORT - Draft Cabinet paper for consultation: “New Zealand’s withdrawal from the Open Government Partnership”	<a href="https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/assets/DirectoryFile/Report-Draft-Cabinet-paper-for-consultation-New-Zealands-withdrawal-from-the-Open-">https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/assets/DirectoryFile/Report-Draft-Cabinet-paper-for-consultation-New-Zealands-withdrawal-from-the-Open-</a>

			<a href="#">Government-Partnership.pdf</a>
6	15 October 2024	2024-0332 – REPORT - Draft Cabinet paper for consultation: “New Zealand’s withdrawal from the Open Government Partnership”	<a href="https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/assets/DirectoryFile/Report-Draft-Cabinet-paper-for-consultation-New-Zealands-withdrawal-from-the-Open-Government-Partnership-v2.pdf">https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/assets/DirectoryFile/Report-Draft-Cabinet-paper-for-consultation-New-Zealands-withdrawal-from-the-Open-Government-Partnership-v2.pdf</a>

I am therefore refusing this part of your request under section 18(d) of the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) on the grounds the information is or soon will be publicly available. Some relevant information has been removed from documents listed in the above table and should continue to be withheld under the OIA, on the grounds described in the documents.

The advice listed in the table above refers to a review of OGP undertaken by the Commission. Information relating to that review is also available on our website: <https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/publications/open-government-partnership-review>

### **Information being released**

Please find enclosed the draft letter provided to the Minister for the Public Service in response to the joint letter from civil society organisations.

Listed below are the dates OGP was discussed at meetings with the Minister for the Public Service:

- 23 January 2024
- 28 February 2024
- 7 March 2024
- 3 April 2024
- 10 April 2024
- 16 October 2024

Notes taken by Commission officials at meetings held on 23 January 2024, 7 March 2024, 3 April 2024 are reflected in reports 2024-0040, 2024-0089 and 2024-0104 which are publicly available at the links provided in the table above. No notes were taken by Commission officials for the meetings dated 28 February 2024, 10 April 2024 and 16 October 2024.

### **Information does not exist**

The Commission has not created any internal memoranda, advice or briefings on either the membership of the Open Government Partnership, creation of a multi-stakeholder forum or creation of the fifth National Action Plan.

I am therefore refusing this part of your request on section 18(g) of the OIA on the grounds the information does not exist.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact [Enquiries@publicservice.govt.nz](mailto:Enquiries@publicservice.govt.nz).

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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that we intend to publish this letter (with your personal details removed) on the Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission's website.

Yours sincerely



Nicky Dirks

**Manager – Ministerial and Executive Services  
Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission**