

24 January 2025

By email: fyi-request-29324-c2ded650@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe J

I refer to your request for information dated 11 November 2024 made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

There have been plans from the Otago Medical School to remove the grade of 'Distinction' from the medical curriculum and to cease the award of the MB ChB with Distinction.

- 1. I would like to know if any final decisions have been made. If not, when a final decision will be made.*
- 2. I would like the meeting minutes regarding this matter.*
- 3. I would like to see communications with OUMSA (Otago University Medical Students' Association) regarding this matter.*
- 4. I would like to see both pros and cons for this matter.*

In accordance with section 15(1) of the Act, we have decided to **grant** your request for certain information held by the University of Otago in relation to your request. We are currently compiling this information and will contact you again to provide it, without undue delay.

Please note we anticipate that certain information may be withheld under the Act, including:

- section 9(2)(a), in order to protect the privacy of natural persons, or
- section 9(2)(g)(i), to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by or between officers and employees of any public service agency, or
- section 9(2)(ba)(i) to protect information that is subject to an obligation of confidence and making it available would likely prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source.

In such cases we consider that good reasons exist for withholding this information, not outweighed by other considerations which would make it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available.

If you are not satisfied with our decision on your request, section 28(3) of the Act provides you with the right to ask an Ombudsman to investigate and review this response. However, we would welcome the opportunity to discuss any concerns with you first.

Ngā mihi



Bill Frewen
Manager Policy and Compliance