



25 March 2025

Miss W. Forest
fyi-request-30290-289fdd0f@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: PMO OIA 324-2024-25

Dear Miss Forest,

Official Information Act request: Lunch past week

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request, received on 4 March 2025. You requested:

Dear Prime Minister Christopher Luxon,

Please provide the details of what lunch (cost and what was the lunch) you've consumed past week as the prime minister, including through the meal allowance.

In addition please provide any other e.g. evening meals that are part of ministerial allowance.

Also please confirm how many apples have you eaten past week before this OIA.

I am refusing your request as it does not meet the definition of Official Information. This is not information held by the Prime Minister, Rt Hon Christopher Luxon, in his official capacity.

However, in the spirit of Act I can confirm all Members of the Executive, are entitled to financial resources and support services so they can fulfil their duties efficiently and effectively. These entitlements are set out under the provisions of the Members of Parliament (Remuneration and Services) Act 2013¹ and are determined variously by the Remuneration Authority, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Minister Responsible for Ministerial Services.

Since 2002, all MPs have been entitled to a tax-free basic expense allowance intended to cover out-of-pocket expenses that arise from that recipient's official duties and any activity undertaken by the recipient for a parliamentary purpose.

¹ <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2013/0093/latest/DLM4034223.html>

The allowance may include the following:

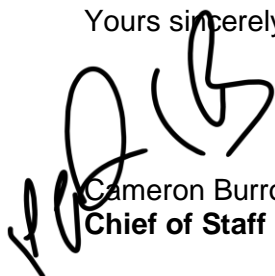
- entertainment of visitors, staff, constituents, and officials;
- fees, including memberships and sponsorships;
- koha, donations, and raffle tickets;
- gifts and prizes;
- flowers (excluding wreaths for public commemorative events);
- passport photos;
- briefcases and luggage; and
- meals.

Members of the Executive are also able to receive an evening meal (up to the value of \$80 including beverages) if travelling outside of their primary residence on Ministerial business. This is provided for under s3.1 of the Ministers' Travel Services within New Zealand Determination 2023, which is set by the Minister Responsible for Ministerial Services.

The Department of Internal Affairs (the Department) is required under legislation to release expenses on Ministers' spending and that can be viewed on the Department's website². In particular, the Ministerial credit card expenses may provide you with some information regarding meals purchased by the Prime Minister.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

Yours sincerely



Cameron Burrows
Chief of Staff

² <https://www.dia.govt.nz/Ministers-expense-releases>