



31 March 2025

Ricky Blackman
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Ref: OIA 347-2024-25

Dear Ricky

Official Information Act request: Use of AI

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request, received on 15 March 2025.
You requested:

1. Records of Interactions

Please provide any records of interactions with generative AI tools — including but not limited to OpenAI's ChatGPT, Microsoft Copilot, Google Gemini, or similar large language models — by the Prime Minister or staff within the Prime Minister's Office, in the course of their official duties, from 1 October 2023 to the present.

This includes, but is not limited to:

Prompts entered into such tools;

** The outputs or responses received;*

** Drafts, summaries, talking points, or written communications generated using such tools;*

** Any records indicating whether AI tools were used to assist with speechwriting, correspondence, media statements, or policy discussions.*

2. Platform-Based Logs

If these interactions were conducted using official government accounts (e.g. associated with govt.nz email addresses or Microsoft 365 accounts), and if interaction logs are accessible via the relevant platform (e.g. OpenAI dashboard or Microsoft Copilot logs), I request that those logs be included.

3. Policies or Guidance

Additionally, I request copies of any internal policies, memos, or guidance documents regarding the use of generative AI tools by the Prime Minister or staff in the Prime Minister's Office.

In response to questions one and two I can advise that the office of the Rt Hon Christopher Luxon, Prime Minister, do not currently use GenAI (with the exception of standard tools such as spell check, Google and a transcribing tool). However, we are open to using GenAI in the future in ways that are safe, responsible, and effectively balance the risks with the potential benefits of these systems.

The transcribing tool referenced above is called Otter.AI. It is used by this office to produce transcripts of media standups involving the Rt Hon Christopher Luxon. Examples of occasions where Otter.AI may be used are media announcements and media questions on the way to and from caucus or the House. There are hundreds, if not more, of these occasions.

These events are covered by the media and are often livestreamed and or run by media outlets, so they are available to the public. I am also advised that the Otter.AI files are large and would need to be downloaded individually. Therefore, this part of your request is declined under section 18(f) of the Act on the basis that it would require substantial collation and research and/or section 18(d) of the Act, that the information is publicly available.

In response to question three, I can advise that The Department of Internal Affairs has recently released guidelines for the Public Service regarding the use of AI. The guidance encourages the use GenAI in ways that are safe, transparent and responsible. This includes ensuring that there is human review of GenAI outputs used to support the development of speeches and other written content. The guidance can be accessed here: www.digital.govt.nz/standards-and-guidance/technology-and-architecture/artificial-intelligence/responsible-ai-guidance-for-the-public-service-genai

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