



Date: 18 July 2025

Ref: DOIA-REQ-0016727-Spencer Jones

Spencer Jones

Email: fyi-request-31350-24237833@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Spencer Jones

Thank you for your email of 19 June 2025 to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

*Pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982, I request the following information regarding the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment's involvement in the regulation and development of the industrial hemp (iHemp) sector in New Zealand:*

1. ***\*\*MBIE's Role and Activities\*\****

*All documents or communications (including internal reports, policy papers, or ministerial briefings) outlining MBIE's responsibilities or activities in relation to the industrial hemp sector. This includes but is not limited to:*

- \* Innovation or research grants,*
- \* Regulatory input or enforcement,*
- \* Policy development or industry consultation.*

2. ***\*\*Interagency Communications on Duplication\*\****

*All communications (including emails, meeting minutes, or joint working documents) with:*

- \* Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI),*
  - \* Ministry of Health (Medsafe),*
  - \* Ministry for the Environment (MfE),*
- regarding any shared responsibilities, duplication of regulatory roles, or joint initiatives for hemp licensing, compliance, research, or standard-setting.*

3. ***\*\*Overlapping Mandates or Inefficiencies\*\****

*Any internal assessments, policy reviews, or consultation feedback identifying concerns about:*

- \* overlapping jurisdiction or role confusion across agencies,*
- \* cost inefficiencies or administrative duplication in the industrial hemp regulatory framework.*

4. ***\*\*Governance and Coordination Documents\*\****

*Any frameworks, memoranda of understanding, interdepartmental protocols, or governance structures used by MBIE to coordinate hemp regulation or industry support with other government departments.*

I am writing to advise you that MBIE will provide a response but needs to extend the time available to answer your request. MBIE's response will be sent to you no later than 22 August 2025.

The reason for the extension is that, following an initial reasonable search and internal consultation with relevant departments, MBIE has been unable to locate any documents that fall within the scope of your request. However, there may be communications related to your request at a broader level. Identifying and reviewing such material will require additional time for collation and potential consultation with relevant parties, should this information be deemed in scope.

Therefore, additional time is necessary to allow for collation and consultation, as a proper response cannot reasonably be provided within the original time frame.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, or if you require any further assistance, please contact [OIA@mbie.govt.nz](mailto:OIA@mbie.govt.nz).

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of our decision to extend the time limit. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

Maddy Hirst

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M Hirst', is positioned below the typed name.

**Team Leader Ministerial Service**

**Labour, Science and Enterprise**