



27 May 2026

Ref: PMO OIA 790-2025-26

Aaron W
fyi-request-33496-89e2abb6@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Aaron,

Official Information Act request: recent changes to Media engagement

Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), received by this office on 29 April 2026. You requested:

"In cancelling your regular interview on TVNZ, you noted you wanted to "reset how I want to engage with media".

[1] Please provide all material in relation to the decision to change your recent media engagements, in particular your decision to not attend regular interviews with TVNZ.

[2] I also request all correspondence you have had in relation to invitations to appear on Q+A and all documents relating to your non-appearances on Q+A."

For ease of reference, we have numbered the parts of your request.

On 25 May 2026 I wrote to you and transferred Part [2] of your request to Television New Zealand (TVNZ) on the basis that the information identified as being relevant to this part of your request was more closely connected to TVNZ's functions.

Part [1]: change to media engagements

We have interpreted Part [1] of your request as seeking all documents concerning recent changes to the way the Prime Minister engages with media. There are no documents including emails, texts or other material in scope, so this part of your request is refused under section 18(e) of the Act on the basis that no relevant documents exist.

For context, the recent changes to how the Prime Minister engages with media, including moving to consideration of some invitations on a case-by-case basis, is not unusual. Such decisions in a Ministerial office may arise from some high-level discussions, but do not necessarily generate documentation, such as emails or communication plans.

Part [2]: correspondence relating to appearance on TVNZ's Q+A show


Following our transfer of Part [2] of your request to TVNZ, for any invitations to appear on TVNZ's Q+A show, you raised a query as to whether this office could hold any additional relevant correspondence that would not be held by TVNZ. When we received your request, we understood this part of your request to be for correspondence held by this office among or between relevant parties. This would include correspondence with TVNZ or internal correspondence within this office, but not correspondence received from the general public.

The only correspondence we identified as in scope of this interpretation of Part [2] of your request is also held by TVNZ. As we believed this correspondence to be more closely connected to TVNZ's functions, we consulted with them, and they accepted a partial transfer of your request. TVNZ will respond to you directly with their decision on this part of your request.

Given the volume of correspondence this office receives every day from the general public, on any number of subjects, if you had intended your request to include such correspondence, identifying relevant information would likely have involved substantial collation and research. It is particularly difficult to identify relevant material on a given subject where an individual may have raised many subjects in one piece of correspondence. If you are interested in correspondence from the general public, I would invite you to consider making a new request for that correspondence, while refining timeframe or other parameters, to enable us to respond.

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