



15 June 2026

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

Ref: PMO OIA 832-2025-26

Dear Aaron,

Official Information Act request: Media engagement

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request, received on 27 May 2026. You requested:

"I would have thought that there was some documentation that exists noting the Prime Minister's decision to not go on Breakfast every week for example. Given that this was the 'instigation' for the Prime Minister's comment that he was resetting his media engagements, is there no documentation (including recollections) held by his office reflecting this? For example, is there no email to his Senior Private Secretaries noting that these should be removed from the calendar and added in on an adhoc basis? Is there no documentation from anyone in his office (including his Press Sec) noting a change in strategy of how he engages with the media? Even if there were 'high level' discussions, it seems unlikely that there would be no subsequent documentation of any kind. I am sure you are aware that recollections are also subject to the OIA. Is Mr Burrow's confirming that no one in the Prime Minister's Office (including the Prime Minister himself) can recall any discussions about a 'media reset'. Given that this was fairly recent 'media reset', this appears to be a troubling lack of recollection.

Regarding part two, is Mr Burrows essentially saying that, when invitations were received from Q+A, that the recipient of that information undertook no discussion internally (and therefore generated no internal material) and simply (and exclusively) replied only to TVNZ. This is the only conclusion one can come to given the explanation provided by Mr Burrows.

I note recent news about the Prime Minister's Office not being able to locate a document that was later found via a Court process, so please excuse me seeking additional confirmation."

On 27 May 2026, I wrote to you explaining that no documents (including emails, texts, or other written materials) had been identified as within scope of your request regarding changes to how the Prime Minister engages with the media. On that basis, I refused the part of your request for such documents under section 18(e) of the Act. As previously noted, such matters may involve high-level discussions that do not necessarily result in recorded information.

For correspondence about appearances on TVNZ's Q+A programme, we advised that the only relevant information identified is also held by TVNZ. Under section 14(b)(ii) of the Act, we transferred this aspect of your request to TVNZ for response, as the material identified was more closely connected to their functions.

For further context, as outlined in the media statement from April, the Prime Minister's media team reviewed regular media engagement late last year. Informal discussions took place, but no records of these were produced, nor were any formal meetings held. It is likely that

these conversations would have begun in early December 2025, when we started looking at the Prime Minister's regular media interviews.

The statement issued at the time was:


"After a review of regular media engagements late last year, we have decided to update our approach. Kiwis get their news in different ways—across radio, television, podcasts and digital platforms, and from next month, there will be three separate morning TV news shows. The PM will continue to be available to media, including Breakfast on a case-by case basis.

We have separately raised concerns with TVNZ this week about the inappropriate conduct of its staff. New Zealanders want a fair, balanced and accurate media talking to the issues that matter to them. We respect the role of media, but there are standards, and those standards matter."

Following reasonable searches to identify any additional information held by this office within scope of your request, I confirm that no relevant information has been located. The remainder of your request is therefore refused under section 18(e) of the Act as the documents alleged to contain the information requested do not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate these, cannot be found.

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