

Hon Andrew Hoggard

Minister for Biosecurity
Minister for Food Safety
Associate Minister of Agriculture (Animal Welfare, Skills)
Associate Minister for the Environment



OIA227

24 March 2026

F.Darren

By email: fyi-request-33729-7dc62b20@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear F.Darren

Thank you for your email of 14 February requesting communications and correspondence between my Office and myself with Groundswell. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

On 13 March, I extended the timeframe of your request to 14 April as consultations necessary to make a decision on your request could not be reasonably made within the original time limit.

You requested the following:

- *"I am writing to request copies of all communications, including written correspondence and all types of electronic communications (such as emails, messages, and any other digital formats), between you and your office and members of the Groundswell organisation since your swearing-in as a Minister."*

Please see attached as Appendix One, all communications with Groundswell. Administrative correspondence is out of scope and therefore not included.

Some information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA – *to protect the privacy of natural persons.*

In accordance with section 9(1) of the OIA, I have also considered public interest relating to the release of the information. I am satisfied that in this case, public interest considerations do not outweigh the withholding reason outlined above.

You are advised of your right to raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. You can contact the Ombudsman at info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Hoggard'.

Hon Andrew Hoggard
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