



13 April 2026

Branch Performance  
Partnerships and Commissions – Te Aukaha  
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Robert Perham  
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Kia ora Robert,

**Request for information (OIA 2526-1017)**

Thank you for your request for information made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) which was partially transferred to the Department of Internal Affairs (the Department) on 24 March 2026. The following was transferred to the Department for response:

- 2. Any communications between the DPMC/PMO and Te Whatu Ora (Health New Zealand), the Ministry of Health, or the New Zealand Police regarding how to respond to, investigate, or manage the claims made by Barry Young in his October 30th email.*

**Background Information**

The Department's Ministerial Services business group is deemed to hold the records of former Ministers of the Crown. However, we do not have the ability to perform searches on the parliamentary server where the electronic records are held. To locate and retrieve former Minister's information we require Parliamentary Service to run the required searches on our behalf.

When commissioning a search of such records on the parliamentary server, we provide Parliamentary Service with specific keywords, dates or topics, in an effort to produce the most accurate and manageable output. The search for electronic records captures information saved by the Minister or staff in the office.

There are limitations with searches for former Ministers' records as key word searches often capture any reference of the word or term used. In addition, items identified can be duplicated saved in multiple places or variations of an email chain.

## Response to your request

The Department's response is limited to the part of your request that relates to communications between the office of the former Prime Minister, Rt Hon Chris Hipkins and officials regarding Barry Young between 30 October 2023 and 26 November 2023. I understand that the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet have responded to your request for correspondence outside of this period.

We commissioned the following search:

- Time period: 30 October 2023 until 26 November 2023
- Office: Rt Hon Chris Hipkins
- Keyword: 'Barry Young'

I can confirm that there were no search results returned. As such, your request for information is refused under section 18(e) of the Act, that the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

If you have any concerns with the information in this response, you have a right to request an investigation and review by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act. Information on how to do this is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



**Penny Langley**

Director Branch Performance

Partnerships and Commissions - Te Aukaha

Department of Internal Affairs - Te Tari Taiwhenua