

27 May 2026

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Tēnā koe Matthew Tetley

Thank you for your email of 24 March 2026, to the Office of the Prime Minister, Rt Hon Christopher Luxon, in which you requested information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). On 30 March 2026, the following parts of your request were transferred to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (the Ministry) for response, under section 14(b) of the OIA:

*[2] Specifically, I request information about the roles and communications of MFAT, and the High Commissioner to Samoa concerning the initial Matai claim.*

*[3] Any documents, reports, minutes from meetings, or correspondence that relate to the claim held by MFAT .*

*[4] Information regarding the decision-making processes by MFAT, and the High Commissioner to Samoa concerning this claim, including any policies or guidelines that were followed.*

On 30 April 2026, the timeframes for responding to your request were extended by an additional 20 working days because responding to your request necessitated the review of a large quantity of information, and due to the consultations necessary to make a decision on your request (section 15A(1)(a) and (b) of the OIA refers).

### **Response to your request**

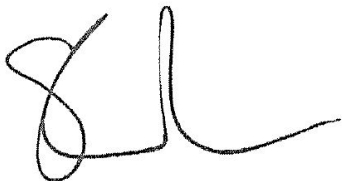
Your request are refused under section 18(d) of the OIA as the information requested will be publicly available on the Ministry's website before the end of this month, via the following link: <https://www.mfat.govt.nz/en/media-and-resources>.

The title of the document containing the information in scope of your request will contain the term "matai title", and will be searchable using the OIA number 30811.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Therefore, our response to your request (with your personal information removed) may be published on the Ministry website: [www.mfat.govt.nz/en/about-us/contact-us/official-information-act-responses/](http://www.mfat.govt.nz/en/about-us/contact-us/official-information-act-responses/)

If you have any questions about this decision, you can contact us by email at: [DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz](mailto:DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz). You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision by contacting [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large loop on the left and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Sarah Corbett  
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade