



5 May 2026

45 Pipitea Street, Thorndon, Wellington 6011

PO Box 805, Wellington

Phone: 04 495 7200

Email: [OIA@dia.govt.nz](mailto:OIA@dia.govt.nz)

Website: [dia.govt.nz](http://dia.govt.nz)

Marcus

[fyi-request-34371-e5c8a82b@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-34371-e5c8a82b@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Tēnā koe Marcus,

**Your Official Information Act 1982 request, reference OIA 2526-1059**

I am responding to your email of 4 April 2026 to the Department of Internal Affairs (the Department) requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*1) Any memos or official advice regarding major decisions by the DIA in deciding to provide ongoing funding to the FVLB that occurred after the successful Budget 2022 bid that provided 3 tranches of support payments to the FVLB.*

*a) This would likely mean any documents published after March 1st, 2023 when "Memo: Grant agreement with the Film and Video Labelling Body 2023" was written.*

*2) A copy of any further funding contracts written up after 8 March 2023, which was the publication date of the second funding contract.*

*a) Ideally this would include the third funding agreement contract that made up the Budget 2022 tranches, as well as any new tranches issued.*

*3) Any ministerial briefings prepared for the Minister of Internal Affairs regarding the FVLB's financial health and/or ability to continue operations.*

*a) This would be anything after 6 October 2021 when "[Excerpt] Briefing: 2021 October Baseline Update for Vote Internal Affairs" was issued.*

*4) Any memos or official advice regarding the various options listed in Section 5C: Options Analysis within "Budget 2022 Initiative Summary – Main Budget Process" document titled "Ensuring the viability of the labelling body function under the Films, Videos and Publications Classification Act 1983". For quick reference, the options considered but discounted were:*

*a) The Department to continue to fund as an internal cost pressure*

*b) FVLB to increase fees*

*c) Changing the legislation to allow a government department or Crown entity to deliver the function until the Content Regulatory Review is complete*

**Response to your request**

Parts One, Two and Four of your request are refused in full under section 18(e) of the Act, as the documents alleged to contain the requested information do not exist or, despite reasonable efforts, cannot be found.



In relation to Part Three, the Department has identified one document within scope of your request. Details of this document are set out in Table One below, and the document is provided as **Appendix One**. Note portions of the document have been withheld under the following provisions of the Act:

- 9(2)(a): to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons
- 9(2)(ba)(i): to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied.
- 9(2)(b)(ii): to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information

#### **Public interest considerations**

As is required by section 9(1) of the Act, consideration has been given as to whether the withholding of information is outweighed by other public interest considerations which would make it desirable to make this information available. In this instance, it is not considered to be the case.

#### **Accessing the Ombudsman**

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of my decision by the Office of the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

Mark Batt  
**Director Branch Performance**  
**Policy and Te Tiriti**



**Table one:**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Decision (Release, partial release or withhold)</b>	<b>Withholding grounds under the Act</b>
1	Briefing: Alternative options for the Video Content Consumer Information project	13 October 2025	Partially Released	9(2)(a) 9(2)(ba)(i) 9(2)(b)(ii)