



**Te Tari Taiwhenua
Internal Affairs**

22 March 2018

*Ministerial and Secretariat Services
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Dear Jackson Fowler

Official Information Act request number (17/18-0295)

I refer to your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request of 20 February 2018, transferred from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet on 2 March 2018. Your request reads as follows:

What is the official residence of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Rt Hon. Winston Peters? Recent news reports state he lives in an official residence, presumably crown owned. What is this official residence? I am aware obviously of Premier House but I was unaware of another official residence.

The Members of Parliament (Accommodation Services for Members and Travel Services for Family Members) Determination 2017 (the Determination) provides for accommodation support for Ministers. Accommodation support includes:

- actual and reasonable expenses of hotel accommodation up to \$320 per night to an annual maximum of \$45,000, or
- an accommodation payment for continuous accommodation to an annual maximum of \$45,000, or
- an official residence.

The Department of Internal Affairs has four official residences. They are: Premier House, Premier Cottage, Vogel House and a property in Bolton Street, Wellington.

The official residence currently occupied by the Rt Hon Winston Peters, Deputy Prime Minister, is located on Bolton Street, Wellington. The street number of this residence is withheld under the following sections of the OIA:

- Section 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons, and
- Section 9(2)(g)(ii) as withholding this information is necessary to maintain effective conduct of public affairs through the protection of such Ministers who occupy this property from improper pressure or harassment.

If you have any concerns with the decisions referred to in this letter, you have the right to request an investigation and review by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Morag Ingram', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Morag Ingram
General Manager
Ministerial and Secretariat Services