

2 October 2024

PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET TE TARI O TE PIRIMIA ME TE KOMITI MATUA

Ref: OIA-2024/25-0288 Dear

Official Information Act request relating to Cabinet ministers working from home

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 24 September 2024. You requested:

"...the number of days any minister in cabinet has worked from home since November 2023. For clarity's sake I want a list of all ministers in cabinet alongside a total number of days worked from home for each minister."

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) does not provide secretariat services to individual Ministers and, therefore, does not hold any information about whether and/or when Ministers of the Crown have worked from home "since November 2023".

Where information requested under the Act does not exist, DPMC is under no obligation to create it. Nor do I have reason to believe that the information requested is held by any other agency or Minister of the Crown. Therefore, I am refusing your request under section 18(g) of the Act.

The offices of individual Ministers may have some information about the working patterns of their respective Ministers, noting that Ministers are employed by statute, not by contract, and so are not employees in the usual sense. If you would like to make further requests for information held by Ministers and other agencies, you can find contact details on the Ministry of Justice's website: www.justice.govt.nz/about/official-information-act-requests/directory-ofofficial-information.

While not containing the information you have requested, Ministerial diaries may be of interest to you, as these show the various engagements of individual Ministers. The diaries are publicly available on the Beehive website: Ministerial Diaries - Search | Beehive.govt.nz.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

This response will be published on DPMC's during our regular publication cycle. Typically, information is released monthly, or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

Yours sincerely

Clare Ward **Executive Director** Strategy, Governance and Engagement