



2 July 2025

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

Ref: OIA-2024/25-0954

Tēnā koe [Redacted],

**Official Information Act request relating to Defence budget increase**

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 4 June 2025. You requested:

*Under the OIA please provide all information since October 2023 (last general election).  
Information between NZ and other countries regarding seeking to boost or agreeing to boost our NZ's defence spending/capacity  
Note that the OIA doesn't just capture written information it also captures recollections. To that end I also require a recollection of any verbal conversations. Including but not limited to discussions between Minister Collins and the USA Secretary of Defence on this matter.*

While we would usually transfer your request to the Minister of Defence as the lead minister for this matter, we note you have also sent your request directly to the Minister. Therefore, we instead refer you to the Minister of Defence's response.

As your request to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) was addressed to the Prime Minister, we have consulted with the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) to identify whether transferring the request would be appropriate. PMO has advised that the Minister of Defence would hold any information that is also held by PMO.

For completeness, I confirm DPMC does not hold any information relevant to your request.

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 the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's website 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.

Nāku noa, nā,

[Redacted Signature]

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