




15 September 2025



Ref: OIA-2025/26-0124

Tēnā koe 

Official Information Act request relating to the Chief Executive's recollections of conversations with the Prime Minister related to the American Proud Boys

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request, received on 18 August 2025. You requested:

“Can Ben King please provide a recollection of the verbal conversations that he had with Prime Minister Christopher Luxon between the dates of June 9th and June 18th related to the American Proud Boys?”

On 16 June 2025, the Chief Executive of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC), Ben King provided an oral briefing to the Prime Minister, Rt Hon Christopher Luxon on whether the American Proud Boys could and should continue to be designated as a terrorist group under the Terrorism Suppression Act 2002. The Chief Executive recommended, after reviewing the assessment against criteria in the Terrorism Suppression Act, that the designation for the American Proud Boys be allowed to lapse.

The Chief Executive's recollection of this oral briefing is captured in two emails he sent. The first email was sent on 17 June 2025 to Bridget White, DPMC Executive Director, National Security Group and the second email was sent on 24 June 2025 to the members of the National Security Board. These emails together with other key documents relating to the designation of The American Proud Boys are publicly available on the DPMC website at: www.dPMC.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2025-08/pr-designation-terror-entity-key-docs-v2.pdf.

This is the only verbal conversation identified as in scope of your request. Your request is therefore refused under section 18(d) of the Act as the information is already publicly available.

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



Alan Cassidy
Deputy Chief Executive Corporate and Chief People Officer