



30 September 2025



Ref ~~OIA-2025/26-0014~~ OIA-2025/26-0176

Tēnā koe

**Official Information Act request: Emails relating to the designation of American Proud Boys transferred from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment**

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request dated 11 August 2025. Your request was transferred in part to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) on 4 September 2025. Your request to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) was for:

*“Under the Official Information Act 1982 I request copies of all correspondence including emails, letters, text messages, WhatsApp messages, Signal messages, or Microsoft teams messages, sent or received by your Chief Executive regarding the American Proud Boys since 1 January 2025.”*

MBIE transferred your request to DPMC insofar as it related to four emails that were sent to the MBIE Chief Executive by DPMC.

As you are aware, DPMC has published documents and correspondence held by DPMC and by the Prime Minister’s office that are relevant to the decision not to renew the designation of the American Proud Boys as a terrorist entity under the Terrorism Suppression Act 2002.

This proactive release consists of two sets of documents: key documents in relation to the decision not to renew the designation, and related email correspondence and documents. These are available on DPMC’s website at: [www.dPMC.govt.nz/publications/proactive-release-designation-american-proud-boys-terrorist-entity](http://www.dPMC.govt.nz/publications/proactive-release-designation-american-proud-boys-terrorist-entity).

All of the relevant documents from the four emails transferred to DPMC were included in the published documents. One of the emails is from the DPMC Chief Executive and is included in the proactive release. The other three emails were administrative emails, forwarding meeting papers for National Security Board (NSB) meetings held on 21 May 2025, 2 July 2025 and 6 August 2025. The emails themselves do not have any information about the designation of the American Proud Boys. The information in scope of your request was in the attached meeting documents.

Set out in the table below are details of the four emails, and where you can find the information in scope of your request, which is available on DPMC’s website.

Email date	From	Subject line	Published document link and page numbers	Information withheld
24 June 2025	DPMC Chief Executive, Ben King	TSA Designations: American Proud Boys	Included in <a href="#">Key Documents Proactive Release</a> . Item 5, page 49	Some information withheld under: s9(2)(a)

Email date	From	Subject line	Published document link and page numbers	Information withheld
14 May 2025	National Security Board [DPMC]	NSB pack for 21 May joint meeting	Relevant documents from the NSB meeting on 21 May 2025 are included in the <a href="#">Key Documents Proactive Release</a> .  Item 1, page 1.  Although not included with this email, there is some additional material for the meeting on 21 May 2025 in the <a href="#">Correspondence Proactive Release</a> .  Item 4, page 7.	Some information is withheld under: s6(a) s9(2)(a) s9(2)(h)
26 June 2025	National Security Board [DPMC]	Consolidated pack for 2 July NSB	Only relevant document from the email with the 2 July 2025 meeting pack is the Minutes from 21 May 2025 meeting. The Minutes are available in <a href="#">Key Documents Proactive Release</a> .  Item 2, page 20.  Although not included with this email, there is some additional material for the 2 July 2025 meeting in the <a href="#">Correspondence Proactive Release</a> .  Item 19, page 40.	Some information is withheld under: s6(a)  Some information is not in scope.
30 July 2025	National Security Board [DPMC]	Consolidated pack for 6 August NSB	The only relevant document from the 6 August 2025 NSB meeting pack was the draft Minutes for the 2 July 2025 meeting. The draft Minutes are available in the <a href="#">Correspondence Proactive Release</a> .  Item 20, page 42.	Some information is withheld under: s6(a)  Some information is not in scope.

The information in scope of the part of your request transferred to DPMC by MBIE is included in both sets of published documents. Accordingly, I am refusing your request under section 18(d) of the Act – the information requested is already publicly available. This is subject to some information being withheld, as set out in the table above, and on the documents themselves, under the following sections of the Act:

- section 6(a), to protect the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand
- section 9(2)(a), to protect the privacy of individuals
- section 9(2)(h), to maintain legal professional privilege.

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



Sean Bolton  
**Acting Deputy Chief Executive**  
**National Security and Resilience Group**