



16 September 2025



Ref: OIA-2025/26-0186

Tēnā koe 

### Official Information Act request relating to Tom Phillips

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request, received on 12 September 2025. You requested:

*Any information held by the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (including emails, notes, papers, minutes, agendas, or correspondence), relating to any consideration, discussion, or briefing about the case of Tom Phillips since September 2021 to either:*

- ODESC or any Watch Group convened under its authority;
- the National Security Committee (NSC);
- Any other intelligence body that is convened by DPMC.

*The information sought in this request is to be used as part of a report by the NZ Herald into management of the Phillips situation. As the information will be used to ensure a greater understanding of administration and maintenance of the law, I ask that any fee is waived.*

*It is understood elements of the requested information might not be considered public information. If this is the case, I would ask each element is considered separately, described as best it can be and reasons for any information being declined being set against the information sought. There may be aspects of the information sought which require names to be redacted to meet section 9(2)(a) of the Act. In situations such as this, I would ask you indicate the employer and position of the person whose name is redacted for the purposes of clarity.*

The matters involving Tom Phillips and his children are operational matters and have not been the subject of meetings convened by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC). Additionally, the National Security Committee no longer exists. Accordingly, your request is refused under section 18(e) of the Act, as the information requested does not exist.

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 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