



2 February 2026

Ref: OIA-2025/26-0411

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request: Ministerial Advisory Committees

Thank you for your Official Information Act (the Act) request received on 20 December 2025. You requested:

"I am writing under the Official Information Act 1982 to request the following information regarding ministerial advisory groups established since the formation of the current coalition government (National, ACT, and New Zealand First) following the 2023 general election:

- 1. A complete list of all ministerial advisory groups formed since 27 November 2023, including their official titles, responsible ministers, and terms of reference.*
- 2. For each such group, please provide:*
 - The total allocated budget (including any revisions) for the group's operations for the 2023/24 and 2024/25 financial years;*
 - A breakdown and the totals of actual expenditures to date, including but not limited to: payments or honoraria to members, catering and venue costs, administrative or secretariat support, travel and accommodation, and any other operational expenses;*
 - Copies of any Cabinet papers, funding approvals, or internal budgeting documents authorizing the group's financial resourcing.*

This request follows recent public reports indicating significant spending by some advisory groups—for example, nearly \$24,000 on catering for meetings of the Ministerial Advisory Group for victims of retail crime—and growing public interest in transparency around such expenditures."

We have interpreted your request to be for a list of Ministerial Advisory Committees (Committees) established since 27 November 2023, their Terms of Reference, and associated operational details.

Part 1

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) does not hold a complete list of all Committees formed since 27 November 2023, as not all Committees are established following consideration by Cabinet. Accordingly, I am refusing this part of your request under section 18(g) of the Act, on the grounds that that the information requested is not held by the department, and I have no reason for believing that it is held by, or connected more closely with the functions of, another department.

While we are unable to provide a list of all the Committees formed since 27 November 2023, we have collated information that we do hold that is in scope of your request. Please see the below table, which lists groups with the words "Ministerial Advisory" in their title that have been considered by Cabinet since that date. Please note that there may be some additional groups, which are in substance a Ministerial Advisory Committee but do not have the words "Ministerial Advisory" in the title, or which were established prior to November 2023 but are still in existence. In those cases, they will not have been identified by our search.

I can confirm that Rt Hon Christopher Luxon in his capacity as Prime Minister and/or Minister for National Security and Intelligence has not established a committee within the specified timeframe.

Ministerial Advisory Group	Portfolio	Responsible Minister or Agency
Aged Care Ministerial Advisory Group	Health	Hon Casey Costello
Ministerial Advisory Group on Transnational, Serious and Organised Crime	Police/Customs	Hon Casey Costello
Fast-Track Project Advisory Group	RMA Reform	Hon Chris Bishop (MBIE)
Early Childhood Funding Review Ministerial Advisory Group	Education	Hon David Seymour
Prime Minister's Science, Innovation and Technology Advisory Council	Science, Innovation and Technology	Hon Dr Shane Reti
University Strategy Group	Universities	Hon Dr Shane Reti
Science System Advisory Group	Science, Innovation and Technology	Hon Dr Shane Reti
University Advisory Group	Tertiary Education (now Universities)	Hon Dr Shane Reti
School Property Ministerial Advisory Group	Education	Hon Erica Stanford
Māori Education Ministerial Advisory Group	Education	Hon Erica Stanford
Ministerial Advisory Group to Review the English and Mathematics Curricula for Primary and Intermediate School Students	Education	Hon Erica Stanford
Abuse Inquiry Response Ministerial Advisory Group	Government Response to the Royal Commission	Hon Erica Stanford
Oranga Tamariki Ministerial Advisory Board	Children	Hon Karen Chhour
Family Violence and Sexual Violence Ministerial Advisory Group	Prevention of Family and Sexual Violence	Hon Karen Chhour
Ministerial Advisory Group for Victims of Retail Crime	Justice	Hon Paul Goldsmith
Ministerial Advisory Group on the Review of Treaty Principles Provisions	Justice	Hon Paul Goldsmith
Health Infrastructure Ministerial Advisory Committee	Health	Hon Simeon Brown
Health Workforce Committee	Health	Hon Simeon Brown
Primary Care Advisory Group	Health	Hon Simeon Brown
Greyhound Racing Ministerial Advisory Committee	Racing	Rt Hon Winston Peters

DPMC holds copies of some of the Terms of Reference for the Committees outlined above but, even where this is the case, we believe that information is more closely connected to the functions of the responsible Minister or agency (listed in the righthand column). Therefore, under section 14(b)(ii) of the Act, I am transferring this part of your request to each of the responsible Ministers listed above insofar as it concerns their respective Committee(s). The exception is the Fast-Track Project Advisory Group; your request for information about which I am transferring to the Ministry for Business, Immigration and Employment (MBIE).

Part 2

DPMC does not have the information sought in this part of your request, which includes operational and funding details for each Committee. Accordingly, I have decided to partially transfer Part 2 of your request to each of the responsible Ministers listed above insofar as it concerns their respective Committee(s). Again, the exception is the Fast-Track Project Advisory Group; your request for information about which I am transferring to MBIE. These partial transfers to responsible Ministers and MBIE are made under sections 14(b)(i) of the Act as the information is not held by DPMC.

As it is already outside of the ten working day time limit for transferring a request, I have extended the time-limit available by 10 working days to make this transfer under section 15(A) of the Act. This extension is required because of the consultations needed to make a decision on your request.


The ministers and MBIE have the usual timeframes under the Act from receipt of these transfers to make a decision on your request.

You may also be interested in the process for establishing Committees, which you can find here: <https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/guidance/establishing-a-ministerial-advisory-committee>.

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 DPMC 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



Jenna Hansen

Manager, Accountability and Ministerial Services