



13 February 2026

Ref: OIA-2025/26-0475

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request: Designation of American Proud Boys

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request, received by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) on 28 January 2026. Your request was for:

“Under the Official Information Act 1982 I request copies of all National Security Board papers, notes, correspondence, and minutes from or relating to the meeting where the Board endorsed the Chief Executive of the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet’s advice to the Prime Minister that the designation of the American Proud Boys as a terrorist entity under the Terrorism Suppression Act 2002, as claimed by the Chief Executive during the DPMC annual review on 28 January 2026?”

Where you chose to withhold a document, I request the name of the document and the reason it was withheld.”

We have understood your request to be for National Security Board (NSB) papers “...relating to the meeting where the Board endorsed the Chief Executive of the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet’s advice to the Prime Minister that the designation of the American Proud Boys [be not renewed] as a terrorist entity under the Terrorism Suppression Act 2002, ...”

In August last year DPMC published documents and correspondence held by DPMC, and by the Prime Minister’s office, that were 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.

All National Security Board (NSB) meeting documents and correspondence between the NSB and the DPMC Chief Executive relating to the decision not to renew the designation of the American Proud Boys were included in the published documents. These are:

- Email (24/06/2025) to NSB members from DPMC Chief Executive advising NSB members of advice he had provided the Prime Minister to not renew the designation of the American Proud Boys as a terrorist entity.
- An Annotated Agenda for the NSB meeting on 2 July 2025.
- Minutes from the NSB meeting on 2 July 2025.

Details of where to locate these documents in the proactive release are given below:

Key documents link to PDF: www.dpmc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2025-08/pr-designation-terror-entity-key-docs-v2.pdf

Item	Date	Page No	Document description	Information Withheld
Item 5	24/06/2025	Page 49	Email from DPMC Chief Executive to members of the National Security Board (NSB): <i>TSA Designations: American Proud Boys</i>	Some information withheld under: s9(2)(a)

Related correspondence and documents link to PDF:

www.dpmc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2025-08/pr-designation-terror-entity-correspondence-v2.pdf

Item	Date	Page No	Document	Information Withheld
Item 19	2/07/2025	Page 40	National Security Board Annotated Agenda	Some information withheld under: s6(a) Some information not in scope.
Item 20	2/07/2025	Page 42	Draft: Meeting Minutes—National Security Board	Some information withheld under: s6(a) Some information not in scope.

Accordingly, I am refusing your request under section 18(d) of the Act as the only information held by DPMC in scope is already publicly available. This is subject to some information being withheld as set out in the tables above and on the published documents under the following sections of the Act:

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

Where section 9 applies, in making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Act. No public interest has been identified that would be sufficient to outweigh the reasons for withholding that information.

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



Jeremy Clarke-Watson
Deputy Chief Executive
National Security and Resilience