



16 March 2026

Ref: OIA-2025/26-0536

Tēnā koe [REDACTED],

Official Information Act request relating to Advice provided to the Prime Minister related to critical minerals

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request, which was received by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) on 24 February 2026. You requested:

“... please provide me with all advice provided to the Prime Minister on matters related to critical minerals and or a framework or international framework for cooperation in this area. Please cover the period November 1 2025 to the present.”

Identified as in scope of your request is a briefing provided by officials in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet to the Prime Minister. This is withheld in its entirety under section 6(a) of the Act to protect the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand.

Also identified as relevant to your request are some briefings provided by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's Policy Advisory Group to the Prime Minister. These briefings are provided to the Prime Minister in confidence to support him in his role as leader of the Government and chair of Cabinet. They are withheld in their entirety, under one or more of the following sections of the Act, as applicable:

- 6(a), to protect the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand
- 9(2)(f)(ii), to maintain collective and individual ministerial responsibility
- 9(2)(f)(iv), to maintain the confidentiality of advice tendered by or to Ministers and officials
- 9(2)(g)(i), to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinion.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lisa Daniell', written in a cursive style.

Lisa Daniell
Acting Deputy Chief Executive, Policy and Delivery Unit