



1 May 2026

Ref: OIA-2025/26-0641
OIA-2025/26-0647

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request relating to specified Cabinet material

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) requests, received by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) on 8 April 2026 and 10 April 2026. Your full requests have been included as Annexes 1 and 2 to this request. We have interpreted your two requests together to be for:

I refer to your correspondence under reference COR-2025/26 126-2 [...] For the avoidance of doubt, I am not requesting the documents themselves from DPMC.

Rather, I request the following information held by the Cabinet Office in relation to these records:

- LEG (94) 142
 - LEG (94) M 34/4
 - CAB (94) 1188
 - CAB (94) M 48/8
1. *The titles or subject descriptions of each of the above Cabinet and Cabinet Committee papers.*
 2. *The originating department(s) responsible for preparing each paper.*
 3. *The date each paper was submitted to the relevant Cabinet Committee and/or Cabinet.*
 4. *Any file references, record identifiers, or archival control numbers associated with these records.*
 5. *Any covering notes, registry entries, or metadata recorded by the Cabinet Office during its January 2026 retrieval and review of these materials.*
 6. *The Cabinet Office file numbers, series references (including series 807 and/o 7581 where applicable), and archival control identifiers in which each of the above Cabinet and Cabinet Committee records is held.*
 - *The dates on which each paper was considered by Cabinet Committee and Cabinet.*

This request is limited to information held by DPMC in its capacity as Cabinet Office and does not seek the Cabinet papers themselves. This information is necessary to enable precise identification of the relevant archival records and to facilitate the processing of my request by the Ministry of Justice.

Background

The Cabinet Office, which is a business unit within the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, holds all Cabinet and Cabinet Committee papers and minutes. However, DPMC transfers requests for Cabinet documents to the relevant portfolio Minister, or for previous

administrations the relevant agency, as they are in the best position to assess them for release under the Act.

This is set out in paragraph 8.5 of the Cabinet Manual: “...Ministers and (in the case of material from a previous administration) public service agencies are responsible for their own Cabinet material. Any requests for access to Cabinet documents, including by an inquiry or judicial body, must be handled by the responsible Minister or agency...” The Cabinet Manual is available on DPMC's website at: www.dPMC.govt.nz/our-business-units/cabinet-office/supporting-work-cabinet/cabinet-manual.

As your request is for information about the Cabinet documents rather than the documents themselves, we can assess the information held by the Cabinet Office for release.

Parts 1, 2, 4 and 7: Titles, departments, Cabinet file references, and dates considered

The Cabinet Office uses the following reference system for Cabinet material. The three-letter code reflects where the material was considered, LEG refers to the Cabinet Legislation Committee and CAB refers to Cabinet. The numbers identify the specific document. References with an “M” before the numbers identify that the material is a minute that records the outcome of a meeting.

Material	Title	Department	File reference	Date considered
LEG (94) 142	Parliamentary Petition 1991/2757 re; Matakana Island Forestry Interests	Ministry of Justice	21/ 7/1; 377/5	6 December 1994
LEG (94) M 34/4	Parliamentary Petition 1991/2757 re; Matakana Island Forestry Interests	Ministry of Justice	21/17/1; 377/5, 11/7/8	Meeting held 8 December 1994
CAB (94) 1188	Report of the Cabinet Committee on Legislation and House Business: Week Ended 8 December 1994	N/A	11/3	8 December 1994
CAB (94) M 48/8H	Report of the Cabinet Committee on Legislation and House Business: Week Ended 8 December 1994	N/A	N/A	Meeting held 12 December 1994

Two of the documents do not have a department listed. This is because:

- CAB (94) 1188 is a report of committee Cabinet paper. This paper is a compilation of minutes from the preceding Cabinet Committee meeting, in this instance the Cabinet Legislation Committee. The material relevant to your initial request that is in this paper is the same minute as recorded in LEG (94) M 34/4 and therefore the responsibility of the Ministry of Justice.
- CAB (94) M 48/8H is a minute that records the outcome related to the CAB (94) 1188 report of committee. As above, the material relevant to your initial request that is in this paper is the same minute as recorded in LEG (94) M 34/4 and therefore the responsibility of the Ministry of Justice.

Parts 3 and 5: Submission dates and metadata

The Cabinet Office does not keep a record of the date Cabinet material is submitted; however, the date items considered are recorded in the table above. The Cabinet Office also

does not hold covering notes, registry entries, metadata, or similar information other than what has been provided in relation to other parts of your request.

Parts three and five of your request are therefore refused under section 18(e) of the Act as the requested information does not exist.

Part 6: Archives New Zealand reference information

The Archives New Zealand reference used by the Cabinet Office when accessing the Cabinet material is provided in the table below. Please note that LEG (94) 142 and LEG (94) M 34/4 have the access status of "may be restricted". You can read more about the process for restricted access records on the Archives New Zealand website here:

<https://www.archives.govt.nz/research-guidance/access-restrictions>

Material	Reference
LEG (94) 142 and LEG (94) M 34/4:	R5478380; series 7581, Accession number W5331, box 136, record number 21/19/1 part 6
CAB (94) 1188 and CAB (94) M 48/8:	Either R5479858 or R5479859; both series 807, Accession number W5331, box 63, record number 48 either part 1 or 2

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. Typical information is released monthly, or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

Nāku noa, nā



Rachel Hayward
Secretary of the Cabinet

Annex 1: Request received at 1.38 pm on 8 April 2026 (DPMC ref: OIA-2025/26-0641)

Dear Sir/Madam,

I refer to your correspondence under reference COR-2025/26-126-2.

I note that the Cabinet Office identified and retrieved the following Cabinet and Cabinet Committee records from Archives New Zealand for review:

- LEG (94) 142
- LEG (94) M 34/4
- CAB (94) 1188
- CAB (94) M 48/8

For the avoidance of doubt, I am not requesting the documents themselves from DPMC.

Rather, I request the following information held by the Cabinet Office in relation to these records:

1. The titles or subject descriptions of each of the above Cabinet and Cabinet Committee papers.
2. The originating department(s) responsible for preparing each paper.
3. The date each paper was submitted to the relevant Cabinet Committee and/or Cabinet.
4. Any file references, record identifiers, or archival control numbers associated with these records.
5. Any covering notes, registry entries, or metadata recorded by the Cabinet Office during its January 2026 retrieval and review of these materials.

This request is limited to information held by DPMC in its capacity as Cabinet Office and does not seek the Cabinet papers themselves.

Annex 2: Request received at 11.49 am on 10 April 2026 (DPMC ref: OIA-2025/26-0647)

Dear Sir/Madam,

I refer to OIA-2025/26-0402 and DPMC reference COR-2025/26-126-2.

Further to your earlier correspondence confirming the existence of the following Cabinet and Cabinet Committee records:

- LEG (94) 142
- LEG (94) M 34/4
- CAB (94) 1188
- CAB (94) M 48/8

I have now made enquiries with Archives New Zealand. I am advised that these references do not correspond directly to archival file listings, and that identification of the relevant Cabinet Office files requires use of the Cabinet Office index held by DPMC.

Accordingly, I request the following information:

1. The Cabinet Office file numbers, series references (including series 807 and/or 7581 where applicable), and archival control identifiers in which each of the above Cabinet and Cabinet Committee records is held.
2. The titles or subject descriptions of each of the above Cabinet and Cabinet Committee papers.
3. The dates on which each paper was considered by Cabinet Committee and Cabinet.

This request is limited to identification and indexing information held by the Cabinet Office and does not seek copies of the Cabinet papers themselves.

This information is necessary to enable precise identification of the relevant archival records and to facilitate the processing of my request by the Ministry of Justice.