



29 May 2026

Ref: OIA-2025/26-0752

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request relating to Announcement titled Delivering fairer social housing

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 May 2026. You requested:

"[...] copies of all communications held by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet between 12 May 2026 and 22 May 2026 inclusive relating to communications strategy, public relations advice, messaging, media handling, or speech preparation concerning the announcement titled "Delivering fairer social housing" made by Ministers Chris Bishop and Louise Upston on Thursday 21 May 2026.

This request includes, but is not limited to:

- Internal emails
- Communications with Ministerial offices
- Draft and final talking points
- Media lines
- Communications plans
- Strategic messaging advice
- Public relations recommendations
- Briefings and aide memoirs
- Speech drafts and annotations
- Q&A documents
- Stakeholder messaging guidance
- Social media messaging advice
- Communications with external communications consultants or contractors

For avoidance of doubt, I am specifically interested in communications concerning:

- framing or presentation of the policy announcement,
- recommended language or narratives,
- media management or reputational considerations,
- anticipated public or stakeholder reactions,
- and strategic communications advice associated with the announcement.

This request includes communications involving staff within DPMC's communications, policy, strategy, or Prime Ministerial support functions where relevant to the announcement.

If any part of this request is considered too broad, I ask that the Department provide reasonable assistance under section 13 of the Official Information Act to refine the request rather than refusing it outright."

We have interpreted your request as seeking a range of written information (including communications and formal advice) relating to a decision announced by the Minister of Housing, Hon Chris Bishop, and the Minister for Social Development and Employment, Hon Louise Upston, on 21 May 2026.

On 26 May 2026, we advised you that the information you seek is more likely to be held by the Minister of Housing and the Minister for Social Development and Employment, and outlined our proposal to transfer your request to those Ministers under section 14 of the Act.

You subsequently clarified that you are seeking only information held by DPMC and asked that we not transfer your request to the Ministers.

Information to be refused

As noted in our earlier correspondence, DPMC can only respond with respect to information it holds.

Searches of DPMC's information management systems have returned no documents within scope of your request, and officials have confirmed that they have not received any material that falls within scope. As you have asked that your request not be transferred to the Minister of Housing or the Minister for Social Development and Employment, whom we believe may hold the information, your request is refused under section 18(g) of the Act, as the information requested is not held by DPMC.

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 Hanse
Manager, Community and Ministerial Services