CABINET OFFICE

4 August 2026

[redacted]

Ref: OIA-2026/27-0019

Tēnā koe [redacted]

Official Information Act request: Conflict-of-interest assessments under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

Thank you for your Official Information Act (the Act) request received on 6 July 2026. You requested:

> *"Please accept this is an Official Information Act request on Behalf of [redacted] MP Office under the Official Information Act 1982.*
>
> 1. *The total number of potential conflicts of interest assessed by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet in relation to Ministers exercising statutory powers under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024.*
> 2. *The dates on which each conflict assessment was undertaken.*
> 3. *A list of all conflict assessments undertaken associated to the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024.*
> 4. *Any guidance, instructions, criteria, or frameworks used by DPMC when assessing potential conflicts under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024.*
> 5. *Any advice provided to the Prime Minister or any Minister regarding actual, perceived, or potential conflicts of interest associated with donations linked to Fast-track applicants.*
> 6. *The number of recommendations made by the Cabinet Office since 27 November 2023 to:*
>   a. *Transfer statutory powers under the Fast-track Approvals Act;*
>   b. *Stand a Minister aside from a Fast-track matter;*
>   c. *Withhold papers from a Minister due to an actual, perceived, or potential conflict of interest.*
> 7. *The number of recommendations not accepted, including the date and the Minister involved.*
> 8. *Copies of emails, memoranda, or briefing notes discussing Ministerial recusals or conflict-management actions relating to Fast-track applicants or associated donors.*
>
> *Where any information is withheld, I request the full reasoning for withholding this information under the Act."*

The Cabinet Office contacted you on 22 July 2026 asking you to consider whether your request could be clarified as the volume of information that would need to be sorted, retrieved and assessed to respond to your request is significant and would

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require substantial collation. We have not heard from you. I am therefore refusing your request under section 18(f) of the Act as the information requested could not be made available without substantial collation.

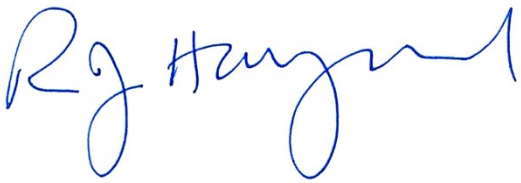
As noted in previous correspondence to you, the Cabinet Office proactively releases information about the management of ministerial interests on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's website, including transfers of responsibility to other Ministers and standing arrangements not to receive Cabinet papers - see here. This includes management approaches relating to the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024.

Some of our advice relating to Ministers' interests and donations is also publicly available in the Audit Office's report about the management of conflicts of interest in the Fast-Track Approvals process – see here. This includes information regarding Cabinet Office guidance provided to Ministers when they were asked to identify any potential conflicts of interest they may have with Fast-track applicants and/or project proposals.

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



Rachel Hayward
Secretary of the Cabinet