



Te Kawa Mataaho
Public Service Commission

17 October 2024

9(2)(a) privacy

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Official Information Request
Our Ref: OIA 2024-0225

I refer to your official information request which was transferred to Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission from Whaikaha on the 20 August 2024 for:

“request under the Official Information Act 1982 all correspondence (particularly, emails and MS Teams messages) and briefings from between officials and from officials to the Minister and the Minister’s Office regarding the Independent Review into Whaikaha and decisions made about transfer of disability support services to MSD and the establishment of a new independent Ministry.”

On 17 September 2024, we notified you of an extension of time needed to respond to your request to the 17 October 2024, due to your request requiring a search through a large quantity of information.

Information publicly available

Outlined in the table below is Information covered by your request which relate to the Independent Review of Disability Support Services. These documents are publicly available on the Whaikaha - Ministry of Disabled People website at the links outlined in the table below.

Item	Document Description	Decision
1.	Independent Review of Disability Support Services	Independent Review Whaikaha - Ministry of Disabled People
2.	Cabinet Paper - Improving the sustainability of Disability Support Services	https://www.whaikaha.govt.nz/assets/Independent-Review/04_AUGUST-CABINET-Paper-Improving-the-sustainability-of-Disability-Support-Services-redactions-applied-FINAL.pdf
3.	Cabinet Minute - CAB-24-MIN-0301	https://www.whaikaha.govt.nz/assets/Independent-Review/07_AUGUST-CABINET-Minute-CAB-24-MIN-0301-Minute-redactions-applied-FINAL.pdf

Outlined in the below table are briefings the Commission provided to Ministers regarding the outcome and the recommendations of the Independent Review of Disability Support Services and decisions made about establishing the Ministry of Disabled People Whaikaha as a public service department.

Item	Date	Document Description	Decision
1	8 April 2024	2024-0107 - AIDE-MEMOIRE - Establishing an independent review of Whaikaha Ministry of Disabled People	Refused in full
2	29 July 2024	2024-0217 - REPORT - Options for transferring Disability Support Services out of the Ministry of Disabled People - Whaikaha	Refused in full
3	6 August 2024	2024-0231 - REPORT - Establishing the Ministry of Disabled People Whaikaha as a public service department	Refused in full
4	8 August 2024	2024-0223 - AIDE MEMOIRE - Cabinet paper - Improving the Sustainability of Disability Support Services	Refused in full

The Commission proactively releases advice provided to the Minister for the Public Service as part of our Business-as-usual practice. I am therefore refusing this part of your request under section 18(d) of the Official Information Act on the grounds the information requested will soon be publicly available on Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission’s website at the following link: [Publications - Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission](#) on the 7 November 2024. Some relevant information has been removed from documents listed in the above table and should continue to be withheld under the OIA, on the grounds described in the documents.

Information being withheld

There are additional documents covered by your request that I have decided to withhold in full under section 9(2)(g)(i) of the OIA to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to Ministers of the Crown or members of an organisation or officers and employees of any public service agency

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the OIA.

There are also a number of documents that we have classified as “administrative” in nature and have not included them in the documents considered for release. The types of documents that we have deemed as administrative are as follows:

- emails and messages sent for the purpose of arranging meetings
- emails and messages sent providing links to documents outlined in the tables above

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Ministerial.Services@publicservice.govt.nz.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that we intend to publish this letter (with your personal details removed) on the Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission's website.

Yours sincerely



Nicky Dirks
Manager - Ministerial and Executive Services
Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission