



16 January 2024

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 20 December 2023, requesting copies of documents that address and detail alignment issues.

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Please find my decision on your request set out below.

Your request for *any documents which address, discuss and detail alignment issues* is very broad in scope and covers an indeterminate period which includes a very wide range of documents.

In order to meet the needs of your request, staff would need to be diverted from their core duties and would need to allocate extra time to complete this task. This would impair the Ministry's ability to continue standard operations and would be an inefficient use of the Ministry's resources. I am therefore, refusing your request under section 18(f) of the Act as it requires substantial manual collation. The greater public interest is in the effective and efficient administration of the public service.

I have considered whether the Ministry would be able to respond to your requests given extra time, or the ability to charge for the information requested. I have concluded that, in either case, the Ministry's ability to undertake its work would still be prejudiced.

We have also tried consulting with you to refine the scope of your request, but I understand that you are away until the end of January 2024, shortly before the statutory time limit to respond to your request is due.

I am however happy to provide you with some of the information you have requested, published on the Ministry's website at the following link: www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/information-releases/alignment.html.

We invite you to make a new request for information if the link provided above does not provide sufficient information to meet the needs of your request once, you are back in the office. However, we encourage you to submit a refined request specifying the document, issue or timeframe you are requesting information on.

I will be publishing this decision letter, with your personal details deleted, on the Ministry's website in due course.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with my decision on your request, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Magnus', is positioned above the typed name.

Magnus O'Neill
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services