

28 July 2023

s9(2)(a)

Mālō 'e Ie lei s9(2)(a)

RESPONSE TO AN OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST (REF: DOIA057-2022/23)

On 30 June 2023, you contacted the Ministry for Pacific Peoples (the Ministry) requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), information relating to media requests received by the Chief Executive and Executive team. I have outlined your specific requests and my responses to each below.

1. *The number of media requests that the Chief Executive (or equivalent position) of your organisation has received, each year for the past six years, and the number of media request accepted, each year for the past six years.*

Generally, the media requests that the Ministry receives are not directed to a specific member of its Executive leadership team. Therefore, please note that we have interpreted your request for media requests that the Chief Executive has received, to be for media requests directed to the Ministry as the Chief Executive is the head of the Ministry.

Prior to the 2021/22 financial year, the Ministry did not hold data on the number of media requests received at a granular level. Accordingly, I must refuse the part of your request for the 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21 financial years under section 18(e) of the OIA as the information requested cannot be found, despite reasonable efforts to locate it. I can, however, provide you with the figures for the 2021/22 and 2022/23 financial years. Please refer to the Table below.

Table: Media requests received and accepted by the Ministry for Pacific Peoples in the 2021/22 and 2022/23 financial years

	2021/22	2022/23
Media requests received and accepted	8	3

2. *The number of media requests that members of the Executive team (or Board, only in instances where an Executive team does not exist) of your organisation have received, each year for the past six years, and the number of media request accepted, each year for the past six years.*

As noted, the media requests that the Ministry receives are not generally directed to a specific member of its Executive leadership team. Therefore, the Ministry's Executive team did not receive any media requests in the 2021/22 or 2022/23 financial years. Prior to this, the Ministry did not hold data on the number of media requests as mentioned above. I must therefore refuse this part of your request under section 18(e) of the OIA as the information requested does not exist or cannot be found.

In line with standard OIA practice, the Ministry proactively publishes some of its responses to OIA requests. As such, this letter may be published on the Ministry for Pacific Peoples' website. Your personal details will be removed, and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you or your organisation.

Should you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact the Ministry at: uia_requests@mpp.govt.nz.

If you are dissatisfied with this response, you have the right, under section 28(3) of the OIA, to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Faka'apa'apa atu

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ali Ajmal', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ali Ajmal
Chief of Staff,
Office of the Secretary