



File No. 1819-1513; 1819-1514; 1819-1515

Jake Preston

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Dear Mr Preston

Thank you for your emails of 16 April 2016 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- *All communication, emails, notes from phone calls, and recollections of interactions between MBIE and Dave Brunson between 02 March 2018, and 30 May 2018.*
- *All communication, emails, notes from phone calls, and recollections of interactions between MBIE and Graeme Beattie between 02 March 2018, and 30 May 2018.*
- *All communication, emails, notes from phone calls, and recollections of interactions between MBIE and Hugh Cowan between 02 March 2018, and 30 May 2018.*

An initial search of the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment's (the Ministry's) system yielded a substantial number of documents potentially within scope of the request. Following this search, on 2 May 2019, the Ministry invited you to refine your requests.

On 3 May 2019, the Ministry outlined the search parameters used to conduct the initial search and again asked if you were able to refine the your requests. In response, you asked for a list of keywords from the documents found. You also advised that, if the Ministry is unable or unwilling to provide a list of keywords, then you would like all documents as per your original requests.

As mentioned above, the initial search of the Ministry's system yielded a substantial number of documents potentially within scope of the requests. There was no keyword classification associated with this search, as it was based solely on the wording of your requests. Additionally, the Ministry's Records Services system does not automatically classify search results by keyword. Therefore, to compile such a list would require analysis of the contents, which would likewise require substantial collation and research.

For this reason, as you have been unwilling to suggest parameters to refine your search, your request has been refused under section 18(f) of the Act, as the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of my decision by the Ombudsman, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on the Ombudsman's website [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

Yours sincerely



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