



11 March 2020

Peter Nielson
fyi-request-12259-d9691fd6@requests.fyi.org.nz

Reference: OIA-2019/20-0374

Dear Peter Nielson

Official Information Act request relating to Policy Advice Group Advice about the Social Housing Programme 2014 - 2017

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 18 February 2020. You requested:

"..copies of any papers, memos, aides memoire, notes prepared by the Policy Advice Group for ministers relating to the Social Housing Reform Programme pursued by the previous government. I limit my request to the years 2014 through till the end of 2017."

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's Policy Advisory Group (PAG) provides confidential 'free and frank' policy advice and support to the Prime Minister of the day. Although the primary function of the PAG is providing advice to the Prime Minister, in some circumstances, PAG may provide advice to other ministers of the Crown. Given your request specifies information provided by the PAG to 'ministers', we have interpreted your request to be seeking any relevant information from the PAG to ministers of the Crown other than the Prime Minister. Please let us know if you had intended your request to also include PAG advice to the Prime Minister of the day.

Searches of our files have been undertaken and no information relevant to your request as interpreted above has been identified. Accordingly, I am refusing your request under section 18(e) of the Act, as the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

We do not intend to publish this response on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's website.

Yours sincerely

Anneliese Parkin
Deputy Chief Executive, Policy