

3 February 2021

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Tēnā koe K Jarrett

I refer to your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request of 16 December 2020 to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment. Your request was partially transferred to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (the Ministry) on 18 December 2020, and seeks the following under the OIA:

"On 9/11/2020 Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said officials are set to visit the Cook Islands on November 14 for face-to-face talks, with the goal of confirming a safe travel bubble.

On what date was each face to face talk in the Cook Islands...?"

Officials from New Zealand arrived in the Cook Islands for discussions with representatives from counterpart government agencies and key stakeholder groups on Friday 13 November CKI time (Saturday 14 November NZT) and left on Friday 20 November CKI time (Saturday 21 November NZT). They held face-to-face meetings every day of their stay apart from Sunday 15 November CKI time (Monday 16 November NZT), including on their days of arrival and departure.

Please note that we may publish this letter (with your personal details redacted) on the Ministry's website.

You have the right under section 28(3) of the OIA to seek a review of this response by the Ombudsman.

Nāku noa, nā



Julie-Anne Lee
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade