



**Te Pūkenga**

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7 December 2022

MD Stewart

By email: [fyi-request-21184-1a1277be@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-21184-1a1277be@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Tēnā koe

**Request under the Official Information Act 1982 – Communications between Unitec and AUT regarding establishment or transfer of osteopathy training programme**

Thank you for your email of 22 November 2022 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

*“...any correspondence or record of meeting between Dr Chris McGrath and Dr Nick Penney and Duncan Reid Associate Dean of Health and Max Abbott former Dean of the School of Health and Environmental Sciences, or between any non-academic or academic staff of AUT and any non-academic or academic staff of Unitec regarding the establishment of a new osteopathy training programme at AUT or the transfer of the Unitec Bachelor of Applied Science and Master of Osteopathy programme to AUT University. The date range of interest is August 2014 to 1 Jan 2020.”*

This letter provides you with a decision on your response under the OIA.

Unitec has made enquiries with current Unitec staff members who were involved in the discussions with AUT, and I have **attached** copies of the relevant correspondence within scope of your request. Names and contact details of individuals have been redacted on the grounds of privacy under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA.

As it is currently framed, it would be difficult to meet the remainder of your request (where it relates to “any non-academic or academic staff of Unitec”) without substantial collation or research. A search of all Unitec staff email folders within the timeframe of August 2014 to 1 January 2020 would return a huge number of emails, even if the search was limited to the keywords “Osteopathy” and “AUT”. Reviewing each of these emails, firstly for relevance and secondly to make a decision on the release of the information e.g., if anything needs to be withheld under the OIA, would unreasonably interfere with the operations of Unitec. Unless this part of your request is amended, we may have to refuse it under section 18(f) of the OIA, which applies where the information cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

Please let us know by emailing [OIA@tepūkenga.ac.nz](mailto:OIA@tepūkenga.ac.nz) whether you are prepared to amend or clarify your request and, if so, how. For example, it would assist Unitec to locate the requested information if you could limit the date range, name specified individuals that are a party to the requested correspondence and/or provide specific subject headings. If we do not hear from you by 23

December 2023, or if you confirm that you do not wish to amend or clarify your request, then this part of your request will be refused in accordance with section 18(f) of the OIA.

Please note that you have the right, under section 28(3) of the OIA, to make a complaint to the Ombudsman if you are not happy with this response. Information about how to do this is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by calling 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



**Peter Winder**

Acting Chief Executive

