

Office of the Prime Minister

MP for Remutaka

Minister for National Security and Intelligence

Minister Responsible for Ministerial Services



10 MAR 2023

Clem White
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Ref: PMO 2023-075

Tēnā koe Clem White

Official Information Act request for the former Prime Minister's meeting with BlackRock

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request, received on 23 February 2023. You requested:

"I am writing to request any information available concerning your predecessor's (Jacinda Ardern) meeting that took place at BlackRock in New York, USA in June 2022.

I am aware from this previous request that formal minutes are not available:

<https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffyi.org.nz%2Frequest%2F19630-blackrock-meeting-minutes&data=05%7C01%7Cinformation%40dpmc.govt.nz%7C9ba3b1366632434b47f08db1607797e%7Ceea6053309ef4b7a94060f38551cc613%7C0%7C0%7C638127993596725565%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljoimC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6Ikl1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=npnhZcW5dNr%2BzHu5L4apuFfjOO6dTIns26gtapwl650%3D&reserved=0>

The information I am requesting is:

- A written agenda, if there is one*
- A full list of the attendees at this meeting, or failing that for any reason, a partial list*
- A summary of topics covered*
- Any agreements made, written or otherwise*
- Any video footage of all or any part of the meeting*
- Any audio recording of all or any part of the meeting*

Please forward this to the relevant agency or agencies if any other than yourself might hold this information. I also request that, if records are not available, you request Jacinda Ardern (who after resigning is no longer obligated to answer OIA requests directly, but remains a member of parliament) to supply this to the best of her ability."

The former Prime Minister's meeting with the United States Chamber of Commerce and Blackrock Investment in New York was a roundtable meeting. It was an opportunity to highlight New Zealand's attractive investment environment as well as testing business leaders' views on what settings are important to attract sustainable investment into New Zealand.

The attendees of meetings the Prime Minister has are recorded in the Ministerial Diary which is proactively released monthly on the Beehive website:

https://www.beehive.govt.nz/search?f%5B0%5D=content_type_facet%3Aministerial_diary&f%5B1%5D=government_facet%3A6455

There was no agenda, agreement or video or audio recording from the meeting, therefore the remainder of your request is refused under section 18(e) of the Act, as the documents alleged to contain the information requested does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

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

Ngā mihi nui,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Kirton', with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.

Andrew Kirton
Chief of Staff