

# Hon Nanaia Mahuta

MP for Hauraki-Waikato

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control

Associate Minister for Māori Development



9 May 2023

James

[fyi-request-22170-ec249d8c@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-22170-ec249d8c@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Tēnā koe James

Thank you for your email of 20 March 2023 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

*Under the OIA please provide following information concerning your two day visit to China in March 2023 to meet new Chinese foreign minister Qin Gang.*

- 1. All information including but not limited to emails, texts, and phone calls relating to your trip to China in March 2023, between yourself and PM, Chris Hipkins. This should include the first notification you had that your trip was taking place.*
- 2. All information including but not limited to emails, texts and phone calls detailing the confirmation of dates for your travel, and confirmation of your travel itinerary.*

We have numbered your request for ease of reference.

In relation to part one of your request, a link to the Cabinet Paper *Proposed Overseas Travel – Hon Nanaia Mahuta* and the associated Cabinet minute can be found via the link to Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade's website: <https://www.mfat.govt.nz/en/media-and-resources/proactive-release-proposed-overseas-travel-hon-nanaia-mahuta-china-march-23/>.

The Proposed Overseas Travel letter to the Rt Hon Chris Hipkins and the information regarding the second part of your request is attached. We have interpreted this to be for information relating to the confirmation of dates of travel and confirmation of the travel itinerary only.

We have withheld some portions of the documents of the Proactive Release under the following sections of the OIA:

- 6(a): to avoid prejudicing the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the New Zealand Government;
- 9(2)(a): to protect individuals' privacy; and
- s9(2)(f)(iv): to maintain the confidentiality of advice tendered to Ministers of the Crown by officials.

Where the information has been withheld under section 9 of the OIA, no public interest in releasing the information has been identified that would override the reasons for withholding it. Correspondence in these emails not relating to the confirmation of dates or the travel itinerary have been deemed out of scope of your request. .

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision by contacting [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Mahuta', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Hon Nanaia Mahuta

**Minita Take Aorere / Minister of Foreign Affairs**