

Office of Hon Amy Adams

Member of Parliament for Selwyn

Minister of Justice
Minister for Courts
Minister of Broadcasting
Minister for Communications

2 8 JAN 2015

Mr Liam Stoneley
By email: fyi-request-2415-32655ab4@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Stoneley

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 17 January 2015, requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) information regarding meetings I have had with members of the public.

I have interpreted your reference to "individual members of the public" to mean people I have met with in their private capacity, so excluding individuals representing a body or group (such as a business, industry body or sector group), Government officials and media organisations.

Since being appointed Minister of Justice in October 2014 I have not had any specific, scheduled meetings with an individual member of the public in that capacity. I have however met with a range of stakeholder groups who represent particular segments of the public. I also regularly attend public events where I speak with a range of members of the public on a wide range of subjects, including matters which fall within my responsibility as Minister of Justice.

The majority of my interaction with individual members of the public specifically as Minister of Justice is by written correspondence. Since October 2014 I have responded to 204 letters and emails. From time to time this correspondence will include a request to meet on matters which can be properly addressed in written correspondence, or where the writer can be better assisted by an official from the Ministry of Justice.

The above information responds to your questions 1 to 4.

In response to your question 5, the number of times I have declined to meet, I am refusing this request under section 18(f) of the Act. Compiling this information would entail substantial collation, as it would require a member of my staff to go through each of the 204 responses to correspondence, check which sought a meeting to discuss their issues, and assess whether any requests were refused (as opposed to those which were adequately addressed by written correspondence or referring the issue on to officials at the Ministry of Justice).

Under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act 1982, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my response to your requests.

Yours sincerely

Hon Amy Adams

Minister of Justice