

# Office of Rt Hon Winston Peters

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**Deputy Prime Minister**

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Minister for Racing



27 February 2024

Kurt Mastrovich

[fyi-request-25167-73e60e4e@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-25167-73e60e4e@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Kurt Mastrovich,

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 request, in which you asked:

*“Per your comments as DPM about the independence of state-owned Media I would like to request the information you hold that proves your statements. I would like information that backs up your claim the media were bribed by the PIJF and that there is no evidence they are independent.”*

The statements made by the Rt Hon Winston Peters concerning public interest journalism were expressed in his role as the leader of the New Zealand First Party, and not in an official ministerial capacity. Therefore, this office does not hold any official information relating to your request. As such, we refuse your request under section 18(g) of the Act.

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.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jamie Allen'.

Jamie Allen

**Private Secretary (Advisory/Media)**