

12 February 2024

T Murray

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Tēnā koe T Murray

Official Information Act 1982 request – Transgender participation

This letter responds to your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request received by Sport New Zealand on 21 December 2023 requesting the following information:

“All advice provided to the Minister on Transgender participation in sport. All directions provided by the Minister to Sport NZ regarding the participation of transgender participants in sport. This should include written advice and recollections of discussions between the Ministers and Sport NZ staff.”

Please see attached all advice provided to the Minister of Sport and Recreation and his Office regarding transgender participation in sport prepared by Sport New Zealand.

I have also had a phone conversation over the holiday period directly with the Minister, I advised the Minister that:

- Sport New Zealand had developed transgender guiding principles that National Sport Organisations use for developing their community sport guidelines.
- Less than 1% of participants in community sport were transgender.

Information has been withheld from these above documents under the following sections of the OIA:

- s 9(2)(a) - to protect the privacy of individuals;
- information that is out of scope of the request.

The Minister was also provided with a copy of the report prepared for the Integrity Transition Programme by Allen + Clarke on the public survey about the Code of Integrity for Sport and Recreation which briefly discusses transgender participation in sport on page 55 and 56. Under section 18(d) of the Official Information Act I am not providing the report as it is publicly available on the Integrity Transition Programme website – integritytransition.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/ITP-Public-Survey-Report-Nov-2023.pdf

In response to your request for *“All directions provided by the Minister to Sport NZ regarding the participation of transgender participants in sport.”* I am refusing this part of your request Section 18(e) of the OIA as the information does not exist – Sport NZ have not received any directions from the Minister of Sport and Recreation in regards to the participation of transgender participants in sport.

I am satisfied that the withholding of this information is not outweighed by any other circumstances that render it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request with us, including this decision, please feel free to contact policy@sportnz.org.nz.

Ngā mihi



Raelene Castle
Chief Executive
Sport NZ Ihi Aotearoa

