



7 May 2024

Michael Riconosciuto
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Ref: PMO OIA 217-2023-24

Dear Michael

Official Information Act request: Cost of Southeast Asia trip

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request, received on 15 April 2024. You requested:

“Under the OIA, I request the cost of your travel to Singapore, Thailand and the Phillipines. This should include the costs of the Prime Ministerial party and the business delegation.

In addition to the total cost(s), please include a breakdown for the following categories: flights, accommodation, transport, events, hospitality.”

At this time, the costs relating to the trip have not been processed with some costs yet to be advised. Accordingly, we are refusing to provide the cost of the trip as this information does not exist. This decision has been made under section 18(e) of the Act.

During the trip the Prime Minister travelled on a Royal New Zealand Air Force aircraft.


Regarding the purpose of the trip the Prime Minister has said, *“Southeast Asia is a region that is more crucial than ever to our prosperity and our security. I look forward to meeting my counterparts and seeing firsthand what more we can do to deepen our relationships. I’m also pleased to be leading New Zealand businesses into the region.*

Building new connections and renewing relationships with partners and customers in these important markets is a priority.”

The Prime Minister also said, *“Continuing to foster our global relationships can only benefit the New Zealand economy and I intend to pursue these relationships in Southeast Asia and around the world. This government is determined to deliver on our plan to rebuild the economy so Kiwis can get ahead again and strengthening our trade and business connections with the world is an important part of that.”*

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

Yours sincerely


Cameron Burrows
Chief of Staff