

Hon Nicola Willis

Minister of Finance
Minister for the Public Service
Minister for Social Investment
Associate Minister of Climate Change



20 May 2024

Michael Riconosciuto
fyi-request-26461-dc50bd89@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Michael

Thank you for your Official Information Act request, received on 17 April 2024. You requested:

... the cost of your travel to the United States. This should include the total costs of your traveling party.

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

Please can I also request whether Zoom or Microsoft Teams was considered as a more cost effective alternative to this travel.

Information publicly available

The information covered by your request will soon be made publicly available on the Treasury website: www.treasury.govt.nz/publications

Accordingly, I have refused your request under section 18(d) of the Official Information Act: the information requested is or will soon be publicly available.

The main purpose of my visit was to attend the in-person meeting of the Five Finance Ministers (5FM) grouping (Australia, Canada, New Zealand, United Kingdom and United States), which took place on the side lines of the Spring Meetings. Attending this meeting in person provided an opportunity for me to build relationships with key counterparts, show that New Zealand is a credible partner, and express New Zealand's priorities for the grouping.

More specifically, aside from 5FM, I met with and attended the following:

- United States: Federal Reserve Chair, Jerome Powell.
- Coalition of Finance Ministers for Climate Action 11th Ministerial Meeting.
- Singapore: Second Finance Minister and Minister in Prime Minister's Office, Indranee Rajah.
- Indonesia: Minister of Finance, Sri Mulyani Indrawati.
- Citi Bank dinner event hosted by Dr. Lawrence Summers.
- Australia: Treasurer, Jim Chalmers.
- IMF: Director, Asia and Pacific Department, Krishna Srinivasan.
- World Bank: Managing Director of Operations, Anna Bjerde.
- Eurogroup: President, Paschal Donohoe.
- Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Ministers Meeting.
- US: Treasury Secretary, Janet Yellen.
- Ireland: Minister of Finance, Michael McGrath.
- IMF: Chief Economist, Pierre-Olivier Gourinchas.

This reply addresses the information you requested. You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nicola Willis', written in a cursive style.

Hon Nicola Willis
Minister of Finance