



Ref: OIA 080

James Webb
fyi-request-27354-59c6b327@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear James,

Thank you for your request received by my office on 24 June 2024 requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

a copy of all correspondence the Minister have received from Government Ministries and agencies on minimum wage settings. This should include all formal advice, and briefings/updates that do not require the minister to take action, or where no action is recommended by the drafter.

Ten documents have been identified as in scope of your request. Two of the documents in scope are publicly available and are therefore withheld under section 18(d) of the Act. They can be accessed at the following links:

- **Cabinet paper – Minimum Wage Review: Setting the 2024 Rates:** <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/dmsdocument/28018-minimum-wage-review-setting-the-2024-rates-proactiverelease-pdf>
- **Minimum Wage Review 2023:** <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/dmsdocument/28014-minimum-wage-review-2023-proactiverelease-pdf>

I am releasing the remaining eight documents to you, subject to some redactions. These documents, and the decisions as to their release, are outlined in the attached table.

Please note that some information has been withheld from these documents under the following sections of the Act:

- 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons;
- 9(2)(g)(i) to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions; and
- 9(2)(h) to maintain legal professional privilege.

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

Some items have not been provided because they substantially duplicate a publicly available document or another document released to you as part of this request. This is noted in the table. Draft versions of the publicly available documents have been excluded, based on our interpretation of your request.

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.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of the letters 'B' and 'V' in a stylized, cursive font.

Hon Brooke van Velden
Minister for Workplace Relations and Safety

#	Date	Description/Title	Withholding grounds
1	30/11/2023	Email: "Briefing 2324-0956 titled Minimum Wage Review 2023 – Setting the 2024 rates"	Released in full
		Email attachment: Briefing 2324-0956, "Minimum Wage Review 2023 – Setting the 2024 rates"	Some information withheld under s 9(2)(a)
		Email attachment: Draft Minimum Wage Review 2023	Not provided. This draft document substantially duplicates the version of the Review that is already publicly available (see link above). Minor changes were made to wording, but no substantive changes were made to the advice on the recommended rates between this draft and the final version.
2	15/12/2023	Email: "Talking points on MWR Dec 2023"	Released in full
		Email attachment: "Talking points on MWR Dec 2023"	Released in full
3	18/12/2023	Email: "MW Chart."	Released in full
4	12/01/2024	Email: "Minimum Wage – Timing"	Some information withheld under s 9(2)(g)(i)
5	17/01/2024	Email: "Briefing 2324-1131 titled 'Draft Cabinet Paper – Minimum Wage Review – Setting the 2024 rates'"	Released in full
		Email attachment: "Briefing 2324-113: Draft Cabinet Paper – Minimum Wage Review – Setting the 2024 rates"	Some information withheld under s 9(2)(a)
		Email attachment: "Draft Cabinet Paper – Minimum Wage Review – Setting the 2024 rates"	Released in full
6	18/01/2024	Email: "RE: Info request: MW rates based on 5/10 year rolling CPI"	Released in full
7	23/01/2024	Email: "Talking points for CBC – Minimum Wage"	Released in full
		Email attachment: "Talking points for 25 January 2024 CBC meeting for Hon van Velden: Minimum Wage Review – Setting the 2024 rates"	Some information withheld under: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • s 9(2)(g)(i) • s 9(2)(h)
8	01/02/2024	Email: "Tax brackets & min wage"	Released in full