

Hon Andrew Hoggard

Minister for Biosecurity
Minister for Food Safety
Associate Minister of Agriculture (Animal Welfare, Skills)
Associate Minister for the Environment



OIA24-043

29 July 2024

Barry Garrick
fyi-request-27462-dd2745af@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Barry

Thank you for your email of 2 July 2024, requesting information relating to a meeting with the NZ Rodeo Cowboys Association. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

You requested the following:

- *Any correspondence with your office regarding the meeting you had with the NZ Rodeo Cowboys Association in May?*

In response to this request please find the documents attached as Appendix One. Some information has been withheld pursuant to the following sections of the OIA:

- Section 9(2)(a) – *to protect the privacy of natural persons.*
- Section 9(2)(g)(i) – *to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to Ministers of the Crown or members of an organisation or officers and employees of any department or organisation in the course of their duty.*
- *Any advice (including but not limited to briefings/memos/notes/aide memoires/weekly report items) you have received on the subject of animal welfare.*

On 6 July, my Office contacted you to refine the broad nature of this part of your request. As you have not responded to our correspondence and due to our document search returning a significant number of results, which could potentially fall within the scope of your request. Therefore, we have refused your request pursuant to section 18(f) of the OIA. - *that the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.*

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

You are advised of your right to raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. You can contact the Ombudsman at info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Hoggard', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Hon Andrew Hoggard
Associate Minister of Agriculture (Animal Welfare, Skills)