

# Hon Erica Stanford

Minister of Education  
Minister of Immigration



30 JUL 2024

ESOIA170

Tēnā koe John Luke,

Thank you for your email of 13 July 2024 requesting:

1. All correspondence with Stefan Sunde (Sunde is a member of the National party board of directors), all correspondence mentioning Stefan Sunde or "Stefan"
2. All correspondence about EY (Ernst & Young or Ernst and Young) including:
  - any mention of their 'scandal'
  - 'secret drinking club'
  - 'PR nightmare'
  - 'sexual harassment'

I have numbered your request for the purposes of responding and have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

**In response to part one of your request;** I have identified correspondence in scope of your request. Please find this attached as Appendix A. Please note, some information provided in Appendix A has been withheld under 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons of the Act.

I have interpreted your request as all correspondence between myself as a Minister of the Crown and Stefan Sunde. I am withholding any other form of correspondence which does not relate to my Ministerial capacities as this is not official information under section 2(4) of the Official Information Act 1982.

**In response to part two of your request;** the information you requested does not exist. We are therefore refusing your request under section 18(e) of the OIA because the requested document does not exist.

As required under section 9(1) of the Act, I have considered the public interest in releasing the information withheld. I do not consider the public interest considerations favouring the release of this information is sufficient to outweigh the need to withhold it at this time.

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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Erica Stanford'.

Hon Erica Stanford  
**Minister of Education**