

PO Box 900, Wellington 6140 P +64 4 472 6170, F +64 4 472 8209 www.nzsis.govt.nz

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Valerie Morse fyi request 27751 8aec7f6b@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Valerie

## Official information request

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request of 21 July 2024 to the New Zealand Security Intelligence Service (NZSIS) asking "if any SIS staff or contractors accompanied the Prime Minister or Minister of Foreign Affairs on their respective recent overseas official trips including: Christopher Luxon: US trip in July, Japan in June Winston Peters: Japan in July. If so, the role of the person who attended."

The NZSIS aims to be as open as possible about our work. Due to the sensitive nature of what we do, however, revealing details can sometimes have security implications. This means we are sometimes in a position where we can neither confirm nor deny the existence or non-existence of information. We therefore make decisions on requests such as yours on a case by case basis, weighing all of the relevant statutory considerations.

In this case, as provided for by section 10 of the OIA, I can neither confirm nor deny whether NZSIS staff have travelled with either the Prime Minister or Minister of Foreign Affairs on the trips mentioned above. To do so would be likely to prejudice the interests protected by section 6(a) of the OIA, namely the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact oia.privacy@nzsis.govt.nz.

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 <a href="https://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz">www.ombudsman.parliament.nz</a> or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that the NZSIS proactively publishes OIA responses in accordance with the expectations of Te Kawa Mataaho/the Public Service Commission. We intend to publish this letter (with your personal information removed) on the NZSIS website. Publication of such responses is done on a quarterly basis.

Ngā mihi

AndrewHampton

Te Tumu Whakarae mō Te Pā Whakamarumaru

**Director-General of Security**