



OIA24-0734

15 October 2024

John Luke
fyi-request-28688-45125f38@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear John Luke

Thank you for your email of 7 October 2024 requesting information relating to meeting minutes and agendas for the Veterinary Council of New Zealand (the Vet Council) from 1 Jan 2021 to 1 Oct 2024. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

You requested the following:

May I kindly request the full meeting minutes for the Veterinary Council of New Zealand (the Vet Council) from 1st Jan 2021 to 1st Oct 2024. Also, the agenda sent to all board member. To ensure public transparency, I would like to encourage the department to actively publish these minutes and agenda on your website.

The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) does not hold the information requested as the Vet Council is an independent statutory body that operates independently of MPI.

As such, your request is refused under section 18(g)(i) of the OIA - *that the information requested is not held by the department or venture or Minister of the Crown or organisation and the person dealing with the request has no grounds for believing that the information is held by another department (for itself and for a departmental agency hosted by it or an interdepartmental executive board serviced by it) or interdepartmental venture or Minister of the Crown or organisation, or by a local authority.*

The Vet Council is not subject to the OIA as laid out in Schedule 1 of the Act - *Organisations (additional to those named in Schedule 1 of the Ombudsmen Act 1975) to which this Act applies*, nor under Schedule 1 of the Ombudsmen Act 1975. Should you wish to contact the Vet Council seeking the information requested, they can be contacted at vet@vetcouncil.org.nz.

Should you have any concerns with this response, I would encourage you to raise these with the Ministry for Primary Industries at Official.InformationAct@mpi.govt.nz. Alternatively, you are advised of your right to also raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. Contact details are: Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143 or at info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fiona Duncan'.

Fiona Duncan
Director, Regulatory Systems Policy