

21 November 2024

Mohammed Khan

By email: fyi-request-28552-9ceac727@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Mohammed,

RE: LGOIMA REQUEST FOR COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN AUCKLAND WAR MEMORIAL MUSEUM AND HOLOCAUST CENTRE OF NEW ZEALAND

Thank you for your request under the *Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987* ('LGOIMA'). On 27 September 2024 you requested information from the Museum as follows:

I was intrigued to read an article on the website of the Zionist lobby in New Zealand today that following the righteous apology by the Chief Executive of the War Memorial Museum for the unfortunate mistaken lighting of the museum with blue and white lights in support of the genocide of the Palestinian people, Deborah Hart's Zionist lobby group had decided that if the War Memorial Museum would not support the genocide of Palestinians, Holocaust Remembrance Day commemorations must not be held there. Reportedly, she continues to try and browbeat the Board into supporting the Zionist entity as it engages in the genocide of tens if not hundreds of thousands of innocent people across Palestine, Lebanon, Syria and Yemen in the past year alone.

<https://1.org.nz/what-october-7-exposed-in-new-zealand/>

I am seeking, in the original form, rather than summaries, all communications since 7 October 2023 between:

- 1) the Auckland Museum Trust Board, David Reeves and other Auckland War Memorial Museum staff*
- 2) and Zionist lobbyist Deborah Hart, and any other representatives of the so-called 'Holocaust Centre of New Zealand' such as Hart's PR representative Sheree Trotter.*

On 21 October 2024 we extended the timeframe for responding to your request by an additional 20 working days due to the consultations necessary to make a decision (per s.14(1)(b) LGOIMA).

Our decision

We have decided to release to you free of charge all communications between all Auckland Museum representatives and Deborah Hart and other Holocaust Centre of New Zealand representatives since 7 October 2023. This information is **attached**.

We have decided to withhold some information from these documents for the following reasons:

- s.7(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons; and
- s.7(2)(i) – to enable the Museum to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations.

All information redacted in the attached materials has been withheld in accordance with s.7(2)(a) unless specifically noted as being withheld under s.7(2)(i).

Where we have withheld information, we have considered whether the public interest outweighs the reasons for withholding and determined that it does not.

We can find no communications between the Museum and Sheree Trotter. I am therefore declining this part of your request in accordance with s.17(e) LGOIMA – that the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of our decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely,

James Liddell
Auckland War Memorial Museum