



**Te Tari Taiwhenua  
Internal Affairs**

23 October 2024

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Tēnā koe J Turner

**Official Information Act 1982 request, reference OIA2425-0328**

I am responding to your email of 5 October 2024 to the Department of Internal Affairs (the Department) requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- 1. I am writing to request any documents related to the investigation and enforcement of Edinburgh Castle's Pokie License on Symond Street.*
- 2. For clarity, I am looking to see what action has been taken since the establishment lost its liquor license a year ago. The scope of my request should cover emails, meetings, records of visits, legal discussions and anything else that would give information on steps taken since the loss of the liquor license.*

**Response to this request**

The Department has reached a preliminary decision in relation to Edinburgh Castle Hotel. The Secretary for Internal Affairs (the Secretary) cannot be satisfied that the venue is not used mainly for operating gaming machines, or that the venue is a suitable Class 4 venue. Consequently, the Secretary has submitted a proposal to cancel the venue's class 4 licence.

As the proposed decision is currently open for submissions and possible appeal, I am refusing your request in full under section 6(c) of the Act, as making the requested information available would be likely to prejudice the maintenance of the law.

**Access to the Ombudsman**

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

Anita Balakrishnan  
**Director Ministerial and Monitoring**