

# Hon Casey Costello

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Minister of Customs  
Minister for Seniors  
Associate Minister of Health  
Associate Minister of Immigration  
Associate Minister of Police



25 November 2024

OIA 24-272

Lee Burton  
[fyi-request-28931-fbcb193f@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-28931-fbcb193f@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Lee

I acknowledge your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request of 29 October 2024, in which you sought:

*- All documents and correspondence - including SMS, Signal, WhatsApp, and other messages on all social media and messaging platforms - between you and any of your staff (political or departmental) relating to disclosures made by them to you regarding reports of crimes or incidents (excluding the issuing of infringement notices) involving them since you were appointed as a Minister of the Crown on 24 November 2023.*

*- All documents and correspondence - including SMS, Signal, WhatsApp, and other messages on all social media and messaging platforms - between you and any of your staff (political or departmental) relating to personal disclosures made by them that could conflict them in their provision of advice to you in your capacity as Associate Minister of Police or as a member of Cabinet's Social Outcomes Committee (SOU).*

*- All correspondence between you and Ministers of the Crown noting the matters referred to above.*

*- All correspondence between you and New Zealand Police staff noting the matters referred to above.*

*- All correspondence between you and the Department of Internal Affairs noting the matters referred to above.*

I have not identified any material in scope of your request and therefore it is refused in full under section 18(e) of the OIA that the information requested does not exist.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision if you are not satisfied with my response to your request.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Casey Costello'.

Hon Casey Costello  
**Associate Minister of Police**