



25 November 2024

P Robins
fyi-request-28946-7433335b@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: PMO 166-2024-25

Dear P Robins

Official Information Act request: Communications 1- 29 October 2024

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request, received on 29 October 2024. You requested:

"I am writing to formally request any communications via any medium from October 2024 between you, your Chief of Staff, press and policy staff in the employ of Ministerial Services, and the following individuals: Kerry Prendergast, Neil Paviour-Smith, Patsy Reddy, Therese Walsh, and Fran Wilde."

I have interpreted your request to be for communications via any medium between the Prime Minister or any staff in his office with the individuals identified in your request between 1-29 October 2024.

The information identified within scope of your request relates to text message exchanges between the Prime Minister and Dame Therese Walsh on 15 and 24 October 2024. Please note there is no further information held relevant to your request.

Please find enclosed the following document:

Date	Document description	Decision
15 and 24 October 2024	Text messages	Some information withheld under s.9(2)(a) and s.9(2)(g)(i)

I have decided to release the document above, subject to information being withheld under one or more of the following sections of the Act, as applicable:

- Section 9(2)(a), to protect the privacy of individuals.
- Section 9(2)(g)(i), to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinion.

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Act. No public interest has been identified that would be sufficient to outweigh the reasons for withholding that information.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'CB', written over the printed name.

Cameron Burrows
Chief of Staff