

02 December 2015

Tex Edwards
17 Masefield Street
Howick
Auckland

Dear Mr Edwards,

Official Information Act #15.60 National Roaming Communications

- 1. We refer to your request received by us on 4 November 2015 for all correspondence with regard to national roaming services for mobile phone operators in New Zealand between operators, officials, MBIE people, Ministers and Commerce Commission (Commission) officials.
- 2. We are treating this as a request for information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

Our approach to your request

- 3. We understand that your request includes any correspondence such as letters, emails, or similar written communications between the Commission and any or all of telecommunications network operators, Government officials, employees or contractors of the Ministry of Business, Innovation, and Employment, and Ministers of the Crown. Accordingly, our search for the information requested was confined to correspondence between the Commission and the above mentioned external parties.
- 4. In order to identify the information requested, we have consulted with internal personnel who would have knowledge of such communications and searched our information management system via a key word search using the term "national roaming". We further limited our review of the 'captured' documents to documents from 2013 onwards. We have not undertaken a more comprehensive review as we

have not been able to contact you, and doing so would require substantial collation and research.¹

Our attempts to contact you

- 5. In deciding on our approach to your request, we considered whether consulting with you would assist you in making a request in a form that would remove our reasons ' for limiting the information provided to you in the manner described above. We considered that such consultation would be of assistance, and made several attempts to contact you for the purposes of consultation on your request.
- 6. On 4 November we replied to the email address from which you sent your request, fvi-request-3317-b87b25ad@arequests.fvi.org.nz. We requested that you contact us at oia@comcom.govt.nz to discuss the scope of your request.
- 7. Having not received a response to our email of 4 November, we emailed you directly on 12 November at texedwards@klr-international.com requesting that you contact us.
- 8. Again, we did not receive a response, so on 18 November we sent a letter to the postal address you supplied, repeating our request for you to contact us. The letter was sent by registered post and was signed for at the supplied address on 19 November at 12:04pm and we are yet to hear back from you.
- 9. We would be happy to discuss the scope of your request should you wish to do so.

Extension of time for our response

- 10. The original date by which our response was due is 2 December 2015, being 20 working days from the date of our receipt of your request.
- 11. Under section 15A(1) of the OIA, the Commission can in certain circumstances extend the time limit for deciding requests for official information.
- 12. The Commission has extended the deadline to decide your request to 21 December 2015 and will advise you of its decision by that date. Our apologies for this delay.
- 13. The reason for the Commission's extension of time is that consultations necessary to make a decision on the request are such that a proper response to the request cannot reasonably be made within the original time limit.²

¹ Under Section 18A(1) of the OIA, where a request involves substantial collation or research the responding body must consider fixing a charge when deciding whether to refuse a request under section 18(f).

² Under Section 15A(1)(b) of the OIA the Commission can extend our response time to make the necessary consultations in order to make a decision on this request.

Further information

- 14. If you are not satisfied with the Commission's decision to extend the time for its decision on your request, section 28(3) of the OIA provides you with the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman about the extension.
- 15. If you have any questions in regards to this request, please do not hesitate to contact us at oia@comcom.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely

Alex Donnison

OIA Co-ordinator