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11 March 2016

James Lowry

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Dear James Lowry

I refer to your email of 1 March 2016 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

"...a copy of all advice and or recommendations provided by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade on West Papua or Western New Guinea during the period of 01 January 2001 to 29 February 2016"

Our research has shown that as currently described, the scope of your request encompasses a very large body of information. For example, a sample check of electronic files has shown over 2,200 documents potentially fall within scope of your request. Additionally there are a large number of documents held in hard copy form that are likely to contain related material.

As currently worded we may have to decline your request under section 18(f) - that the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

Are you able to more specifically identify that information which you are seeking, for example, a particular subject, or a narrower timeframe?

I will consider your response further once I receive your response to this letter.

Yours sincerely

Joana Johnston

for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade