



# Office of the Prime Minister

Prime Minister

Minister for National Security and Intelligence

Minister of Tourism

Minister Responsible for Ministerial  
Services

3 MAY 2016

Daniel

Email: [fyi-request-3872-5757edf8@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-3872-5757edf8@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Daniel

## Official Information Act Request Relating to the Prime Minister's Spending

I refer to your request to the Prime Minister dated 8 April 2016 which asks:

1. *“What phones have you [the Prime Minister] had over the past few electoral terms which you have been Prime Minister. (Specifically, what were / are their models, storage capacity, colour, where were the phone's purchased and for what amount?)”*
2. *Do you download any games or unnecessary Applications on to your Government issued phone that use ‘Storage Data’ that could be deleted to use a smaller storage capacity phone that is cheaper?”*
3. *What are those games and your high scores? (A larger high score uses more storage in the phone and if you play less and have a smaller high score you can purchase a cheaper phone).*
4. *Will the Office of the Prime Minister be offering the Rt Hon John Key a Rose Gold colour iPhone 6s for a preference when he changes his phone? See link attached for Rose Gold Colour <http://www.apple.com/nz/shop/buy-iphone/iphone6s> they have been known to have shorter battery life, and could potentially require Mr Key to charge his phone more, wasting Tax Payer money.*
5. *Does the Prime Minister use Tax Payer money for golfing lessons?”*

In relation to parts one and four of your request, I note that since November 2011, ICT services have been provided to all Members of Parliament, including Ministers, by the Parliamentary Service under the relevant Speaker's Directions. The Parliamentary Service is not subject to the Official Information Act 1982.

Prior to November 2011, the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) was responsible for the provision of ICT services. DIA have confirmed that they do not hold any information on handsets that have been held by the Prime Minister. Hardware could be identified within a specific cost code, but DIA advises that they are unable to determine if the hardware was a phone, charger or other phone associated hardware, and also that they may not be able to identify for whom that hardware was purchased within the Prime Minister's Office. Therefore, I am refusing parts one and four of your request under section 18(g) of the Official Information Act *“that the information is not held by the Minister of the Crown or organisation and the person dealing with the request has no grounds for believing that the information is either –*

- (i) *Held by another Department or Minister of the Crown or organisation, or a local authority; or*
- (ii) *Connected more closely with the functions of another Department or Minister of the Crown or organisation or of a local authority.”*

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In relation to parts two and three of your request, only information held in a capacity as a Minister of the Crown is deemed to be official information under the Official Information Act. Information that is held by Rt Hon John Key in any other capacity, such as Leader of the Parliamentary National Party, as a Member of Parliament or as a private individual, is not official information and falls outside the scope of parts two and three of your request.

In relation to part five of your request, the taxpayer has not incurred any costs for any golf lessons for the Prime Minister.

You are entitled to ask the Ombudsman to review this response under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act. You can contact the Ombudsman online via the Ombudsman website, by email ([info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz)) or by post to The Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143. Further details can be found on the Ombudsman website at: [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

Yours sincerely



Wayne Eagleson  
**Chief of Staff**