

OMBUDSMEN ACT 1975

1. NZVIF is listed in Part 2 of Schedule 1 of the Ombudsmen Act 1975 and accordingly is required to comply with the OIA. Information held by NZVIF is "official information" for the purposes of the OIA. Section 5 of the OIA sets out the principle that official information (as defined) will be made available by the relevant authority, unless there is a good reason for withholding it.

2. Section 9(1) of the OIA provides that if section 9 applies, the official information does not need to be disclosed, unless the withholding of the information is outweighed by the public interest. Section 9(2)(b) of the OIA provides that section 9 will apply if, and only if, withholding the information is necessary to "protect information where the making available of the information ... would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information".