

Prime Minister

Minister for Arts, Culture & Heritage

Minister for Child Poverty Reduction

Minister for National Security & Intelligence



6 JUN 2018

James Brown
fyi-request-7880-4cfcd254@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: PMO 178-2018

Dear James Brown

Request to review decision to withhold advice provided by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet to a former Prime Minister

Thank you for your request, received on 22 May 2018. You requested:

“please review this request for information, refused by the previous administration of former prime minister John Key, regarding Foreign Trusts, and implementation of an Act under the another previous administration, under former prime minister, Helen Clark.

I am requesting this review in the suggestion that your office will have a new view on historic advice, built on advocacy from the current Ombudsman that transparency must increase as time advances.

See refusal here:

<https://fyi.org.nz/request/4289-policy-and-other-advice-given-to-current-and-former-prime-ministers-on-foreign-trusts>

See advocacy here, as per Boshier 2018:

https://www.victoria.ac.nz/__data/assets/pdf_file/0008/1518506/Policy-Quarterly-May-2018.pdf

I understand that the information that you requested from Rt Hon John Key is advice provided to Rt Hon John Key by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC)'s Policy Advisory Group while he was the Prime Minister.

DPMC provides advice to the Prime Minister of the day on a confidential basis. The Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern has not received copies of any advice provided by DPMC to previous Prime

Ministers. Accordingly, Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern is not in a position to review the decision made by DPMC.

If you have not already done so, if you are unsatisfied with a response you have received to a request made under the Official Information Act 1982, the appropriate body to complain to would be the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act. You can contact the Ombudsman online via the Ombudsman website, by email (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.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Munro', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right. The signature is written over a faint, illegible background.

Mike Munro
Chief of Staff