



CABINET OFFICE

Reference: OIA-2017/18-0645

21 June 2018

Mx Jem Traylen
PolicyWorks NZ
fyi-request-7982-d3bc103a@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mx Traylen

Official Information Act request: Cabinet agendas from 1996

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 2 June 2018. You requested copies of the Cabinet agendas for the first ten meetings of the coalition government formed following the 1996 general election.

Cabinet agendas form an essential, practical tool to inform and assist collective discussion. The Cabinet Office has maintained a long-held view that the release of agendas would risk undermining the conventions of collective responsibility and confidentiality of Cabinet and Cabinet committee meetings. For that reason, I am withholding the requested agendas under section 9(2)(f)(ii) of the Act.

I note that Cabinet records, including Cabinet agendas, generally become publicly available after 25 years and can be accessed through Archives New Zealand.

We do not intend to publish this response on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's website.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Michael Webster'.

Michael Webster
Secretary of the Cabinet