

Schedule of follow-up responses to McGuinness Institute's OIA 2025/01

This schedule contains non-confidential responses received by each government department in response to our OIA 2025/01 follow-up queries.

- 02. Department of Conservation
- 05. Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
- 07. Government Communications Security Bureau
- 09. Land Information New Zealand
- 12. Ministry for Primary Industries
- 14. Ministry for the Environment
- 20. Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- 22. Ministry of Housing and Urban Development
- 25. Ministry of Social Development
- 28. New Zealand Security Intelligence Service
- 29. Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children

Friday, March 7, 2025 at 14:08:57 New Zealand Daylight Time

Subject: OIAD-4811 - Response to follow up questions
Date: Friday, 7 March 2025 at 12:58:24 PM New Zealand Daylight Time
From: Government Services <GovernmentServices@doc.govt.nz>
To: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
Attachments: OIAD-4811 Corrected Potential new GDSs sheet McGuinness.xlsx

Kia ora Wendy

We acknowledge receipt of your three follow up questions concerning our Government Department Strategies (GDSs).

The questions focus on the relationship between the [Addressing the threat of toxoplasmosis to Hector's and Māui dolphins: an action plan](#) (Action Plan) and the [Hector's and Māui Dolphin Threat Management Plan 2020](#) (Threat Management Plan).

Your follow up questions led to us to discover that the updated *Potential new GDSs* sheet, provided by the Department as part of its response, inadvertently and incorrectly included listing the Action Plan. This likely explains why you are now seeking to clarify the situation.

Consequently, your questions and our responses are set out below:

1. Is [Addressing the threat of toxoplasmosis to Hector's and Māui dolphins: an action plan](#) also jointly held with MPI or is it solely held by DOC?

The Action Plan is solely held by DOC, as part of its responsibilities under the Threat Management Plan.

Although the Threat Management Plan is jointly-held and led by DOC and Fisheries NZ (part of MPI):

- Fisheries New Zealand is responsible for *managing the impacts of fishing* on the dolphins, and
- DOC is responsible for *the overall management* of the dolphins, *including the non-fishing related threats, of which toxoplasmosis is one.*

2. Should we consider [Addressing the threat of toxoplasmosis to Hector's and Māui dolphins: an action plan](#) and [Hector's and Māui Dolphin Threat Management Plan 2020](#) (December 2021) as one GDS or as stand-alone strategies that are simply inter-related?

The Action Plan should be considered a component of the Threat Management Plan, which then falls within that part of the Threat Management Plan for which DOC is responsible. In a sense, together they form one GDS; however, no part of the Action Plan is technically the responsibility of Fisheries New Zealand (MPI).

3. Could you please provide the publication date of [Addressing the threat of toxoplasmosis to Hector's and Māui dolphins: an action plan](#)?

The initial publication date of the Action Plan is June 2020.

We also **attach** a correct version of the *Potential new GDSs* sheet.

Ngā mihi

Government Services
 Department of Conservation | *Te Papa Atawhai*

Subject: FW: OIAD-4811 – Response
Date: Monday, 17 February 2025 at 11:31:32 AM New Zealand Daylight Time
From: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
To: governmentservices@doc.govt.nz <governmentservices@doc.govt.nz>
Attachments: OIAD-4811 Response Mcguinness.pdf, OIAD-4811 Response Attachment 1 Mcguinness.xlsx

Kia ora,

Thank you for your timely and detailed response to our OIA request.

We just have three questions regarding [Addressing the threat of toxoplasmosis to Hector's and Māui dolphins: an action plan](#). You refer to this as an additional revision to [GDS02–18] [Hector's and Māui Dolphin Threat Management Plan 2020](#) (December 2021), a GDS which is jointly-held with MPI.

Therefore our three questions are:

1. Is [Addressing the threat of toxoplasmosis to Hector's and Māui dolphins: an action plan](#) also jointly held with MPI or is it solely held by DOC?
2. Should we consider [Addressing the threat of toxoplasmosis to Hector's and Māui dolphins: an action plan](#) and [Hector's and Māui Dolphin Threat Management Plan 2020](#) (December 2021) as one GDS or as stand-alone strategies that are simply inter-related?
3. Could you please provide the publication date of [Addressing the threat of toxoplasmosis to Hector's and Māui dolphins: an action plan](#)?

Many thanks,

Wendy

Monday, March 17, 2025 at 10:40:08 New Zealand Daylight Time

Subject: RE: Your Official Information Act request OIA2425-0623
Date: Monday, 17 March 2025 at 9:43:30 AM New Zealand Daylight Time
From: OIA <OIA@dia.govt.nz>
To: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
Attachments: image001.jpg

Good morning Wendy,

I can see that your 14 March email was filed in error and not allocated through as follow-up questions, so I was unaware of it. Please accept my apology for the delay in responding here! I will address this with the team.

Part 1 – If you do not consider that the AML programme guide meets the definition of a strategy, please feel free to remove it. The 2024 document replaces the earlier document. The earlier document should be considered archived.

Part 2 – the Ministry of Ethnic Communities is an independent government agency for the purposes of the Official Information Act. OIA responses are issued on behalf of the Chief Executive or Secretary of an organisation, and the Ministry has its own independent Chief Executive. The Ministry responds independently to OIA requests, they report independently to the Public Service Commission as part of government agency public performance reporting, requests are transferred between the Department and the Ministry under the Act as with any other government organisation, and the Ombudsman engages with the Ministry directly regarding any complaints.

It was my assumption that, since you make this request to all agencies, you would have also made your request to MEC directly in this case, hence I didn't check with you here. In responses to this OIA over the past years, we have clearly indicated items were owned by and transferred to the Ministry in 2001 when the Ministry was stood up. I could go back and look, but it's likely I advised that the Ministry was an independent agency the last time around. It rings a bell. I will make a note for myself to ask you directly about this the next time the OIA comes through.

You are able to make OIA requests to the Ministry via their main communication channel info@ethniccommunities.govt.nz. They have a dedicated OIA function and response is likely to be swift.

Nāku noa, nā,

Michelle Reed ([she/her](#))

Lead Advisor Official Correspondence | Information Management and Privacy
He Ringa Manaaki | Workplace Services Group
Enterprise Services

Te Tari Taiwhenua | Department of Internal Affairs

Level 3, 45 Pipitea St | PO Box 805, Wellington 6140, New Zealand | www.dia.govt.nz



Subject: FW: Your Official Information Act request OIA2425-0623
Date: Friday, 21 February 2025 at 6:54:44 PM New Zealand Daylight Time
From: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
To: OIA <OIA@dia.govt.nz>
Attachments: image001.jpg, OIA2324-0623 MCGUINNESS - response letter.pdf, COLLATION 2024 Department of Internal Affairs.xlsx

Kia ora,

Thank you for your timely response to our OIA request.

We have undertaken an initial review and wondered if you could respond to the following points of clarification:

1. AML/CFT Programme Guideline October 2024

In your response, you stated that *AML/CFT Programme Guideline October 2024* replaces [GDS04–05] *Anti-Money Laundering and Countering Financing of Terrorism Group Framework*.

- a. Can you advise whether [GDS04–05] *Anti-Money Laundering and Countering Financing of Terrorism Group Framework* should be treated as:
 - i. Archived,
 - ii. Not replaced and therefore still active as its own strategy alongside *AML/CFT Programme Guideline October 2024*, or
 - iii. Part of the same strategy as *AML/CFT Programme Guideline October 2024* and therefore the two documents should be merged?
- b. The Institute's initial review of *AML/CFT Programme Guideline October 2024* is that it may not be a GDS as it does not have a clear 'approach (the means)' and 'purpose (the ends)' (criterion 4) and does not have a clear duration that is longer than two years (criterion 6). Do you agree?

2. GDSs held by the Ministry of Ethnic Communities

We note that [GDS04–04] *Office of Ethnic Communities – Strategic Framework* and [GDS04–11] *Strategy 2022–2025: A pathway to an Aotearoa where ethnic communities feel at home* have been transferred to the Ministry of Ethnic Communities, but that the Ministry is a 'departmental agency' under Schedule 2, Part 2 of the Public Service Act 2020, with the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) being its host department (see p. 22 of the strategy document [here](#)).

- c. The Institute's initial review notes that as the Ministry of Ethnic Communities is not listed as a government department in Schedule 2, Part 1 of the Public Service Act 2020, these two GDSs should be included under DIA. Do you agree?

It would be terrific if you could come back to me on these three points as soon as possible.

Thank you in advance,

Wendy

We note that [GDS04–04] *Office of Ethnic Communities – Strategic Framework* and [GDS04–11] *Strategy 2022–2025: A pathway to an Aotearoa where ethnic communities feel at home* have been transferred to the Ministry of Ethnic Communities, but that the Ministry is a ‘departmental agency’ under Schedule 2, Part 2 of the Public Service Act 2020, with the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) being its host department (see p. 22 of the strategy document [here](#)).

- c. The Institute’s initial review notes that as the Ministry of Ethnic Communities is not listed as a government department in Schedule 2, Part 1 of the Public Service Act 2020, these two GDSs should be included under DIA. Do you agree?

It would be terrific if you could come back to me on these three points as soon as possible.

Thank you in advance,

Wendy

From: OIA <OIA@dia.govt.nz>

Date: Thursday, 13 February 2025 at 5:22 PM

To: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>

Subject: Your Official Information Act request OIA2425-0623

Good afternoon Wendy,

Please refer to the attached letter, which provides the Department’s decision on your request, and the appendix with the requested information

Nāku noa, nā

Michelle Reed ([she/her](#))

Lead Advisor Official Correspondence | Information Management and Privacy

He Ringa Manaaki | Workplace Services Group

Enterprise Services

Te Tari Taiwhenua | Department of Internal Affairs

Level 3, 45 Pipitea St | PO Box 805, Wellington 6140, New Zealand | www.dia.govt.nz



Te Tari Taiwhenua
Internal Affairs

From: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>

Sent: Thursday, 2 January 2025 8:30 am

To: OIA <OIA@dia.govt.nz>

Subject: OIA 2025/01 - 2024 GDS Index (04 - DIA)

You don't often get email from gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

Kia ora,

OIA 2025/01 - 2024 GDS Index (04 - DIA)

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, 13 February 2025 at 5:22 PM
To: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
Subject: Your Official Information Act request OIA2425-0623

Good afternoon Wendy,

Please refer to the attached letter, which provides the Department's decision on your request, and the appendix with the requested information

Nāku noa, nā

[REDACTED]
Lead Advisor Official Correspondence | Information Management and Privacy
He Ringa Manaaki | Workplace Services Group
Enterprise Services

Te Tari Taiwhenua | Department of Internal Affairs

Level 3, 45 Pipitea St | PO Box 805, Wellington 6140, New Zealand | www.dia.govt.nz



Te Tari Taiwhenua
Internal Affairs

From: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
Sent: Thursday, 2 January 2025 8:30 am
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: OIA 2025/01 - 2024 GDS Index (04 - DIA)

You don't often get email from gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org. [Learn why this is important](#)
Kia ora,

OIA 2025/01 - 2024 GDS Index (04 - DIA)

Thank you for your help in providing the data for the *2023 GDS Index*. You will be pleased to note that your digital strategy ranked 8th= out of 230 GDSs for transparency. The Index includes a Handbook, a Methodology and an Analysis of Climate Change – learn more about the GDS Index on our website [here](#). Given how challenging it was for some departments to respond last year, we have decided to quickly prepare a *2024 GDS Index*.

Please find attached our OIA request. It relates to the Institute's upcoming *2024 GDS Index* and consists of two attachments:

- Attachment 1: A letter outlining what information we are requesting and why.
- Attachment 2: An Excel consisting of two sheets for you to update yellow-highlighted columns.

We would appreciate if all correspondence related to this request is emailed to:
gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org

All the best for the summer break,

Wendy McGuinness

Wendy McGuinness

Chief Executive

McGuinness Institute Te Hononga Waka

Level 1A, 15 Allen Street, Wellington 6011 | PO Box 24-222 Wellington 6142

[+64 4 499 8888](tel:+6444998888) | www.mcguinnessinstitute.org

The McGuinness Institute is a non-partisan think tank working towards a sustainable future, contributing strategic foresight through evidence-based research and policy analysis.

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Monday, February 17, 2025 at 14:06:10 New Zealand Daylight Time

Subject: RE: Your OIA request – Response
Date: Monday, 17 February 2025 at 1:56:13 PM New Zealand Daylight Time
From: [REDACTED]
To: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>

Kia ora

We acknowledge and understand your comments and are working towards the best solution to assist you. We will aim to provide an approved list of Departmental strategies published in the 2024 calendar year through the most effective process and will confirm the approach to this as soon as possible.

Ministerial Coordinator

Ministerial Services
Strategy, Governance and Engagement
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

E information@dpmc.govt.nz

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From: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
Sent: Monday, 17 February 2025 12:30 pm
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Your OIA request – Response

To whom it may concern,

Although we appreciate your concerns outlined below, our experience is such that we do need your help. Departments are the only organisation that can provide an accurate list of strategies in operation as at 31 December 2024. If you prefer, please email a list of titles and links of all DPMC strategies added in the 2024 calendar year (you do not need to use the Excel, Sheet 2). We will immediately review your list and come back to you with any questions.

Our previous system has proven more problematic for departments, hence our move to a more simplified request (see explanation in the letter of our initial request on 2 January 2025, reattached for your convenience) . FYI, DPMC is the only department that has found the current process difficult and rejected the information relevant to Sheet 2. The current process has greatly sped up our ability to deliver the GDS Index in a timely manner and we would appreciate if you could reconsider our request.

We would appreciate a response as soon as possible so we can complete the project by late-March and provide Ministers and officials with a copy of the *2024 GDS Handbook*.

Thank you very much,

Wendy

PS: Relevant text from your letter is copied below.

'Regarding your request for information relevant to Sheet 2: Potential 'new' GDSs, you have asked the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) to use the McGuinness Institute definition criteria provided to identify appropriate strategy information for inclusion in the McGuinness Institute 2024 Government Department Strategies (GDS) Index.

DPMC does not apply these criteria or categorise information for a similar purpose while undertaking its functions. To ensure that all relevant information is correctly defined and consistent, I consider that the McGuinness Institute itself is best placed to determine which new strategy document(s) in the 2024 calendar year meet the GDS definition. You can find our publications on the DPMC website at this link [publications page in this link https://www.dPMC.govt.nz/publications](https://www.dPMC.govt.nz/publications). You can filter your search according to the GDS definition criteria.

DPMC is not in a position to consider any additional information requested until the publications for inclusion in the proposed 2024 GDS Index have been identified by your organisation. Accordingly, I have refused your request for information relevant to Sheet 2: Potential 'new' GDSs under section 18(d) of the Act – the information requested is publicly available.'

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday, 13 February 2025 at 5:02 PM
To: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
Subject: Your OIA request – Response

[UNCLASSIFIED]

Kia ora,

Please see the attached letter regarding your recent OIA request.

Ngā mihi,

Ministerial Coordinator
Ministerial Services
Strategy, Governance and Engagement
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

E information@dPMC.govt.nz

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Monday, February 24, 2025 at 11:10:03 New Zealand Daylight Time

Subject: RE: OIA 2025/01 - 2024 GDS Index (07 and 28 - GCSB and NZSIS)
Date: Monday, 24 February 2025 at 9:23:52 AM New Zealand Daylight Time
From: [REDACTED]
To: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>

Kia ora,

Each of those documents should be considered as to be held by the relevant department in the title. In each case, they are not considered joint, but are available on each other's websites.

Ngā mihi,
GCSB and NZSIS

From: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
Sent: Monday, 24 February 2025 8:42 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: OIA 2025/01 - 2024 GDS Index (07 and 28 - GCSB and NZSIS)

You don't often get email from gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org. [Learn why this is important](#)
Kia ora,

Thank you for your timely response to our OIA request.

We have two points of clarification below.

Question 1: GCSB Strategy 2023-2027 - Given that GCSB and NZSIS provided a combined response to our request, should the GCSB Strategy 2023-2027 be treated as:

- i. Jointly held by both departments, or
- ii. Solely held by GCSB?

Question 2: NZSIS Strategy 2024-2029 - Given that GCSB and NZSIS provided a combined response to our request, should the NZSIS Strategy 2024-2029 be treated as:

- i. Jointly held by both departments, or
- ii. Solely held by NZSIS?

Many thanks,

Wendy

Monday, February 24, 2025 at 13:03:34 New Zealand Daylight Time

Subject: GDS Index request regarding 'Antarctic and Southern Ocean Research Directions and Priorities'
Date: Monday, 24 February 2025 at 9:38:11 AM New Zealand Daylight Time
From: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
To: ESD <DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz>, Official Information Act <Official.InformationAct@mpi.govt.nz>, Ministerial Support <ministerialsupport@linz.govt.nz>
Attachments: image001.png, image002.png, image003.png, image004.png, image005.png, image006.png, 12 - MPI.pdf, 20 - MFAT.pdf, 09 - LINZ.pdf, 12 - MPI.pdf, 09 - LINZ.xlsx, 20 - MFAT.xlsx

Kia ora,

Thank you for your response to our OIA request.

We are writing to request clarification on the GDS [Antarctic and Southern Ocean Research Directions and Priorities](#). In the [2023 GDS Index](#), we were advised to treat this strategy as jointly held by MFAT, MPI and LINZ. However, as part of our recent review, MPI informed us that they did not hold this strategy and that it was solely held by MFAT as the lead department. In contrast, LINZ and MFAT both treated the strategy as jointly held by all three departments. Given the above, we are planning to treat *Antarctic and Southern Ocean Research Directions and Priorities* as jointly held by MFAT and LINZ, unless we hear to the contrary.

We recognise our current definition requires more clarification. In the [2023 GDS Index](#), we defined a 'jointly held GDS' as being 'a GDS that is owned and managed by two or more departments'. The purpose of the term is to show collaboration between departments, as well as accountability and transparency. We acknowledge there is a difference between being the lead agency and being jointly responsible and accountable for the implementation of a strategy. For this reason, we are thinking of updating our 2023 glossary definition to the following:

Jointly held GDS

A GDS that is owned and managed by two or more departments. This includes where a department is not the lead agency but is responsible and accountable for some or all aspects of the strategy's implementation. The purpose is to clarify the degree of collaboration between departments.

We have copied this email to all three departments and attached all three initial responses so that you can discuss the status of this strategy. We would also welcome feedback on the proposed definition (in blue above).

It would be terrific if you could get back to us by Thursday 6 March or ideally earlier.

Many thanks,

Wendy

A: From MFAT (Sarah Corbett)

From: ESD DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz
Date: Friday, 21 February 2025 at 9:14 AM
To: GDS Index gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org

Subject: RE: OIA 2025/01 - 2024 GDS Index (20 - MFAT) [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

[UNCLASSIFIED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Tēnā koe Wendy McGuinness,

Please see the attached letter concerning your OIA request.

Ngā mihi

Executive Services Division
New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade | Manatū Aorere

195 Lambton Quay, Private Bag 18901, Wellington 5045, New Zealand
www.mfat.govt.nz | www.safetravel.govt.nz



B: From MPI (Tim Grace)

From: Official Information Act <Official.InformationAct@mpi.govt.nz>

Date: Wednesday, 19 February 2025 at 12:28 PM

To: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>

Subject: OIA25-0003-List of government department strategies

Tēnā koe Wendy,

On behalf of Tim Grace, Director Strategy, Governance, and Performance , please find attached an update on your request.

Ngā mihi,

Official Information Act Team

Government Services | Public Affairs

Ministry for Primary Industries | Charles Fergusson Building, 34-38 Bowen Street | PO Box 2526 | Wellington | New Zealand

Telephone: 0800 00 83 33 | Email: Official.InformationAct@mpi.govt.nz | Web: www.mpi.govt.nz

C: From LINZ (Pete Hill)

From: Ministerial Support <ministerialsupport@linz.govt.nz>

Date: Wednesday, 22 January 2025 at 10:42 AM

To: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>

Subject: RE: OIA 2025/01 - 2024 GDS Index (09 - LINZ)

UNCLASSIFIED

Hi Wendy

Attached is a response to your Official Information request.

Kind regards

Pete Hill

Senior Business Partner / Hoa Kōtui Pakihi Matua
Ministerial and Government Services

prhill@linz.govt.nz | **DDI** 04 460 2784 | **MOB** 027 235 8389

[09. Land Information New Zealand \(A6850341\)](#)



Wellington Office, Level 7, Radio New Zealand House, 155 The Terrace

PO Box 5501, Wellington 6145, New Zealand

www.linz.govt.nz | data.linz.govt.nz



Monday, February 24, 2025 at 08:46:15 New Zealand Daylight Time

Subject: RE: OIA25-0003-List of government department strategies
Date: Monday, 24 February 2025 at 7:48:41 AM New Zealand Daylight Time
From: Official Information Act <Official.InformationAct@mpi.govt.nz>
To: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>

Tēnā koe Wendy,

Yes, the Wilding Conifer Management Strategy plan can be treated as solely held by MPI.

Please note that this Strategy was a collaborative effort developed under the leadership of the New Zealand Wilding Conifer Management Group it provides strategic direction for all parties involved in the control of wilding conifers in Aotearoa. It is the guiding document for the National Wilding Conifer Control Programme established in 2016, which is led by MPI.

Ngā mihi,

Official Information Act Team

Government Services | Public Affairs

Ministry for Primary Industries | Charles Fergusson Building, 34-38 Bowen Street | PO Box 2526 | Wellington | New Zealand

Telephone: 0800 00 83 33 | Email: Official.InformationAct@mpi.govt.nz | Web: www.mpi.govt.nz

From: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
Sent: Friday, 21 February 2025 7:23 pm
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: OIA25-0003-List of government department strategies

Kia ora,

Many thanks for your timely response to our OIA request.

We have one point of clarification:

Question 1: We are treating [GDS12-06] [Wilding Conifer Management Strategy](#) as solely held by MPI. This corresponds with how DOC said the strategy should be treated in their OIA response. Can you confirm that is fine with you?

We hope to publish the *2024 GDS Index* in March 2025. If you would like to attend the launch of the *2024 GDS Index*, please register your interest by replying to this email with your name and email address. At this stage, it will be an informal lunch towards the end of March.

Many thanks,

Wendy

Wendy McGuinness

Monday, March 17, 2025 at 10:07:56 New Zealand Daylight Time

Subject: RE: OIAD-1433
Date: Monday, 17 March 2025 at 9:01:34 AM New Zealand Daylight Time
From: Matthew Schep <Matthew.Schep@mfe.govt.nz>
To: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
CC: OIA <OIA@mfe.govt.nz>, Sarah McCarthy <Sarah.McCarthy@mfe.govt.nz>, Stephanie Gard'ner <Stephanie.Gard'ner@mfe.govt.nz>
Attachments: image001.jpg, image002.png, image003.png, image004.png, image005.png, image006.png

Kia ora Wendy

I apologise for the delay in responding to your email – I had procured a response to your Q3 from the Urban Policy team and then neglected to dispatch it to you during a busy week.

The Urban Design Protocol has neither been archived or transferred to another department. It is still a live document, however the Ministry doesn't have an active work program associated with it right now, given tight resourcing and a substantive workload for resource management and urban policy.

Ngā mihi

Matthew Schep (he/him)

Advisor | Kaitohutohu
Ministerial Services

Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao
matthew.schep@mfe.govt.nz | mfe.govt.nz



Ministry for the
Environment
Manatū Mō Te Taiao



From: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
Sent: Friday, 14 March 2025 5:55 pm
To: Matthew Schep <Matthew.Schep@mfe.govt.nz>
Cc: OIA <OIA@mfe.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: OIAD-1433

MFE CYBER SECURITY WARNING

This email originated from outside our organisation. Please take extra care when clicking on any links or opening any attachments.

Kia ora,

This is just a gentle reminder about our OIA request. Could you provide an ETA for a response to the follow-up question in the thread below? We are aware that the mandatory response time-frame is 20 working days, however given these are just points of clarification, we would really appreciate a response

as soon as possible.

We are still hoping to publish the final *2024 GDS Index* in late-March.

Thank you in advance,

Wendy

From: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>

Date: Wednesday, 29 January 2025 at 5:51 PM

To: Matthew Schep <Matthew.Schep@mfe.govt.nz>

Cc: OIA <OIA@mfe.govt.nz>

Subject: Re: OIAD-1433

Kia ora Matthew,

Thank you for your response.

1. [GDS13–05]

Thank you for letting us know that *Te hau mārohi ki anamata – Transitioning to a low-emissions and climate-resilient future* is superseded by *Te Hau Mārohi ki Anamata – Towards a Productive, Sustainable and Inclusive Economy: Aotearoa New Zealand's first emissions reduction plan*. We will remove *Te hau mārohi ki anamata – Transitioning to a low-emissions and climate-resilient future* from the *2024 GDS Index*. This was clearly our mistake. We searched for the word 'draft' as part of our protocol but we did not search for 'discussion document'; we will add this to our protocol going forward.

2. [GDS13–04]

Regarding *Our Science Strategy – Rautaki Pūtaiao*, I will have a closer look next week. Thanks for the heads up.

3. [GDS13–01]

We would like to clarify the meaning of your response about the *Urban Design Protocol*. You commented that 'The Ministry for the Environment does not have an active work program associated with informing, promoting, monitoring or updating the Urban Design Protocol.' Does this mean the strategy is to be archived or has it been transferred to another department?

Many thanks,

Wendy

Friday, March 14, 2025 at 12:30:16 New Zealand Daylight Time

Subject: RE: OIA 2025/01 - 2024 GDS Index (20 - MFAT) [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Date: Monday, 10 March 2025 at 1:16:51 PM New Zealand Daylight Time
From: ESD <DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz>
To: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
Attachments: image001.png, image002.png, image003.png, image004.jpg

[UNCLASSIFIED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Tēnā koe Wendy,

Regarding your first question, New Zealand's policy for International Cooperation for Effective Sustainable Development (ICESD) is not mandated by legislation – the mandate is through approval by Cabinet on 25 November 2019. See here for the related Cabinet Minute: <https://www.mfat.govt.nz/assets/OIA/PR-2020-41-PDG-omnibus-cabinet-paper-version-for-web-publication.pdf>

Regarding your second question, we do not have a more specific definition of 'AoG policy' to share. The Ministry also does not have a position on whether an AoG policy should or should not be included within your index.

Ngā mihi

Executive Services Division
New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade | Manatū Aorere

195 Lambton Quay, Private Bag 18901, Wellington 5045, New Zealand
www.mfat.govt.nz | www.safetravel.govt.nz



UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

From: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2025 12:16 PM
To: ESD <DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz>
Subject: FW: OIA 2025/01 - 2024 GDS Index (20 - MFAT) [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Kia ora,

Thank you for your response to our OIA. We have two questions regarding [GDS18–01] [International Cooperation for Effective Sustainable Development \(ICESD\) \[Policy Statement\]](#).

In your response (dated 21 Feb 2025), this strategy was described as 'a mandated AoG Policy not a GDS'. We are unsure if we agree and wondered if you could provide more information. For example, a number of strategies are mandatory and therefore being mandatory is not enough to disqualify it as a GDS. In the *2023 GDS Index*, 26 GDSs were mandated by law (see Appendix 8 of the [2023 Methodology](#)).

Question 1: Regarding 'mandated' status

Can you provide the name and section of the legislation that the *International Cooperation for Effective Sustainable Development (ICESD) [Policy Statement]* is mandated under?

Question 2: 'AoG policy' status

From our perspective, 'AoG policy' simply means an 'all-of-government policy'. All we could find online was information on [AoG contracts](#); we could not find a clear definition of 'AoG policy'. Could you provide more clarity over what AoG status means and why, from your perspective, an AoG policy should not be included in the GDS Index?

FYI, at this stage the GDS Index excludes 'strategic intentions'; therefore MFAT's *Strategic Intentions 2024-2028* will not be treated as a GDS in the *2024 GDS Index*. Thank you for letting us know about the new [Disarmament and Arms Control Strategy](#). We will take a closer look, but this will most likely be included in the *2024 GDS Index* as a GDS.

We would really appreciate if you could get back to us on the two questions above by Thursday 6 March or ideally earlier. Our current thinking is that [GDS18–01] *International Cooperation for Effective Sustainable Development (ICESD) [Policy Statement]* is a GDS.

Many thanks,

Wendy

Tuesday, February 25, 2025 at 13:02:41 New Zealand Daylight Time

Subject: Re: OIA 2025/01 - 2024 GDS Index (22 - HUD) CRM:0201585
Date: Tuesday, 25 February 2025 at 11:36:38 AM New Zealand Daylight Time
From: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
To: [REDACTED]
Attachments: image.jpeg

Kia ora [REDACTED],

Thank you for your response.

We acknowledge your comments below. Given the PHP 24/25 is only one year in duration, it would not meet the Institute's GDS criteria if treated as a stand-alone strategy. In lieu of this, we will treat PHP 24/25 as an extension of the PHP21-24 and therefore merge the two strategies in the *2024 GDS Index* to ensure the PHP 24/25 update is included.

It is good to see strategies being revisited and refreshed.

Given the situation, we think this is the best solution. Hope this decision works for you.

Best wishes,

Wendy

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Tuesday, 25 February 2025 at 9:56 AM
To: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
Subject: Re: OIA 2025/01 - 2024 GDS Index (22 - HUD) CRM:0201585

Kia ora Wendy

The answer is more b) than a) (but not entirely b)).

PHP 24/25 is an extension of PHP21-24.

When we developed PHP 24/25, we took account of what had been delivered under PHP21-24 (noting that delivery wasn't finished at that point), and built that into PHP24/25.

Therefore, now that we have PHP21-24 and PHP 24/25, we wouldn't merge the 2 (hence not entirely b)).

At the same time, PHP 24/25 does not replace PHP21-24 (hence not a)).

Hope that helps!

Ngā mihi

[REDACTED]

Government Services



----- Original Message -----

From: Wendy McGuinness <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>;
Received: Fri Feb 21 2025 19:06:55 GMT+1300 (New Zealand Daylight Time)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: OIA 2025/01 - 2024 GDS Index (22 - HUD) CRM:0201585

Kia ora,

Thank you for your timely response to our OIA request.

We have undertaken an initial review and wondered if you could respond to the following point of clarification.

Our question relates to the new GDS [Updated Public Housing Plan: Including 2024–2025 delivery](#).

In your response, you stated that [GDS20–03] [Public Housing Plan 2021–2024](#) should be treated as being replaced with [Updated Public Housing Plan: Including 2024–2025 delivery](#). However, the *Updated Public Housing Plan: Including 2024–2025 delivery* states that it is ‘an extension of the *Public Housing Plan 2021–2024*’. Therefore, I am writing to clarify whether the *Updated Public Housing Plan: Including 2024–2025 delivery* should be treated as:

- a. Replacing [GDS20–03] *Public Housing Plan 2021–2024*? If yes, then [GDS20–03] would be archived and the *Updated Public Housing Plan: Including 2024–2025 delivery* would not be considered a GDS in its own right as does not meet criterion 6 (‘be a document that looks out at least two years or more’). Or
- b. An extension of [GDS20–03] *Public Housing Plan 2021–2024* and therefore the two documents would be merged?

Our thinking is (b), but it would be terrific if you could clarify as soon as possible.

Thank you in advance,

Wendy



27 March 2025

Tēnā koe Wendy McGuinness,

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 14 March 2025, requesting information about the New Zealand Carers' Strategy Action Plan.

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Please find my decision on your request set out below.

I can confirm that the Carers' Strategy Action Plan expired on 31 December 2023 and a new Action Plan has not been developed. Agencies continue to work to achieve the objectives set out in the Carers' Strategy

I will be publishing this decision letter, with your personal details deleted, on the Ministry's website in due course.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with my decision on your request, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui

pp.

Anna Graham
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT**

TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

17 March 2025

Wendy McGuinness

gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org

Tēnā koe Wendy McGuinness

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your emails on 17 February 2025 and 21 February 2025 that contained, follow up questions on the Ministry of Social Development's (the Ministry's) 5 February 2025 response to your prior request for our update of the McGuinness Institute publication, *2024 GDS Index*.

I have considered your requests under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Please find my decisions on your requests set out below.

17 February 2025 request

On 17 February 2025, you asked two questions.

1. Employment Investment 2024 –

Is the duration of this strategy 2024–2025 (one year) as indicated by the title, OR

is the duration of this strategy 2024–2030 (six years) as indicated by the 'Target'?

Note: If the strategy duration is only one year in length, we will not consider it a GDS and will remove it from our GDS Index.

The answer to question 1 is that the Employment Investment Strategy is one year in duration and therefore can be removed from the Index.

2. [GDS23-18] Social Sector Commissioning 2022-2028 Action Plan

In their OIA response, Oranga Tamariki stated that MSD was the lead agency for the GDS. Currently, this GDS is considered jointly held by both departments.

Should this strategy be treated as:

- i. Jointly held between Oranga Tamariki and MSD, or*
- ii. Solely held by MSD as the lead agency?*

In our response to you of 5 February 2025, we provided our feedback to your spreadsheet. I reattach this as you'll see in the first tab, the Ministry is

responsible for the Social Sector Commissioning 2022-2028 Action Plan. The Ministry is the lead agency.

21 February 2025 request

On 21 February 2025, you asked two further questions:

3. A response from the Ministry of Health state that [GDS19–19] [*Where I Live; How I Live – Disability Support Services Community Residential Support Services Strategy*](#) was transferred to MSD in October 2024. Can you clarify whether *Where I Live; How I Live – Disability Support Services Community Residential Support Services Strategy* is:
 - Hosted by MSD, or
 - No longer operational and should be archived (if archived, please let us know when)?
4. If the answer to Question 1 is yes [as in (a)], is the strategy:
 - hosted by MSD only, orjointly held (in which case please provide the name of the other department/s that host this strategy)?

The *Where I Live; How I Live – Disability Support Services Community Residential Support Services* strategy was no longer operational when the Disability Support Services functions were transferred to the Ministry in October 2024. This Strategy ended in 2020 and should be archived.

The *Where I Live; How I Live – Disability Support Services Community Residential Support Services Strategy*: It focussed on providing disabled people with choices, control, and flexibility around where and how they live. It supported the direction of a transforming disability support system, and the Government's ongoing commitment to the Enabling Good Lives principles. The *My Home, My Choice Strategy*, driven by the Ministry of Disabled People (Whaikaha) can be regarded as one of the successor programmes coming from the *Where I Live; How I Live* strategy.

There has been a commitment to the principles of the *My Home, My Choice Strategy* (led by Whaikaha), and these are still supported by the Enabling Good Lives approach, with the transfer of the Disability Support Services (DSS) operational activities to the Ministry. While DSS is not explicitly driving a *My Home My Choice* strategy, the principles remain very important to the work of DSS, and there are other parallel programmes such as '*Choice in Community Living*' which DSS continues to support. There is currently wide sector consultation on the future of key DSS settings, and this will inform any future work in this area.

In summary, there are numerous programmes that have continued to be developed that align with the principles of Enabling Good Lives, but there is no over-arching *My Home My Choice* Strategy, currently.

I will be publishing this decision letter, with your personal details deleted, on the Ministry's website in due course.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with my decision on your request, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui

pp. 

Anna Graham
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services

Subject: Re: Ministry of Social Development | Your Official Information Act Request

Date: Friday, 21 February 2025 at 7:20:44 PM New Zealand Daylight Time

From: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>

To: OIA_Requests (MSD) <OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz>

Kia ora,

Following on from our questions below, we have two additional questions.

Question 1: A response from the Ministry of Health state that [GDS19–19] [Where I Live; How I Live – Disability Support Services Community Residential Support Services Strategy](#) was transferred to MSD in October 2024. Can you clarify whether *Where I Live; How I Live – Disability Support Services Community Residential Support Services Strategy* is:

- a. Hosted by MSD, or
- b. No longer operational and should be archived (if archived, please let us know when)?

Question 2: If the answer to Question 1 is yes [as in (a)], is the strategy:

- a. hosted by MSD only, or
- b. jointly held (in which case please provide the name of the other department/s that host this strategy)?

It would be terrific if you could come back to me on these three points as soon as possible.

Thank you in advance,

Wendy

From: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>

Date: Monday, 17 February 2025 at 11:53 AM

To: OIA_Requests (MSD) <OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz>

Subject: Re: Ministry of Social Development | Your Official Information Act Request

Kia ora,

Thank you for your timely and detailed response to our OIA request.

We just have two questions regarding your response. The additional points under B and C provide more information on the Institute's protocol for the GDS Index in order to explain our decisions that are at odds with MSD's response.

A: Questions

Q1: Employment Investment Framework 2024

Is the duration of this strategy 2024–2025 (one year) as indicated by the title, OR is the duration of this strategy 2024–2030 (six years) as indicated by the 'Target'?

Note: If the strategy duration is only one year in length, we will not consider it a GDS and will

remove it from our GDS Index.

Q2: [GDS23–18] [Social Sector Commissioning 2022– 2028 Action Plan](#)

In their OIA response, Oranga Tamariki stated that MSD was the lead agency for the GDS. Currently, this GDS is considered jointly held by both departments.

Should this strategy be treated as:

- Jointly held between Oranga Tamariki and MSD, or
- Solely held by MSD as the lead agency?

B: Other comments on existing GDSs

These are responses to your specific comments on existing GDSs. Please get back to us if you would like to discuss any of the below further.

[GDS23–13] [Te Aorerekura – The Enduring Spirit of Affection: The national strategy to eliminate family violence and sexual violence](#)

We consider this GDS to be held by MSD as it is a member of Te Puna Aonui and thus shares a responsibility for not only the implementation of the strategy, but the strategy itself. We have applied this logic to all seven departments on this Interdepartmental Executive Board.

[Better Later Life He Oranga Kaumātua Action Plan 2021 to 2024](#)

This GDS was included in our 2023 GDS Index. However, it was merged with [GDS23–06] [Better Later Life – He Oranga Kaumātua 2019 to 2034](#).

The Institute’s definition of ‘merged’ can be found in Appendix 6 of the *2023 GDS Methodology*. We have attached Appendix 6 for your convenience.

C: Your suggested changes on titles

Please note, we will look at your suggested changes, however none of the below currently match our protocol for GDS titles.

You suggested the following changes:

- [Family Violence Funding Approach 2019](#)
- [Campaign for Action on Family Violence: Framework for change 2019-2023](#)
- [E Tū Whānau Mahere Rautaki: Framework for Change 2019-2023](#)
- [Pasefika Proud: Pathways for Change 2019-2023](#)
- [Financial Capability in Aotearoa NZ 2021-2024](#)

FYI: You can learn more about our current protocol on GDS titles and the reasons why below.

In order to preserve space, the Institute has developed a set of rules for adjusting GDS titles for the GDS Index. This is due to space availability in the Handbook and ensures titles are succinct whilst still being identifiable. One rule includes removing dates from titles unless it is a strategy end date or the date is embedded in the title and does not sit at the beginning or end. Therefore, we would like to keep the titles above without their dates.

Regarding [GDS23–10] [Pasefika Proud: Pathways for Change 2019-2023](#), we have not included Pasefika Proud in the title as this relates to the name of a campaign that looks to have published

multiple GDSs, and does not relate to the specific content of the GDS itself.

Regarding [GDS23–14] *Financial Capability*, we have not included ‘in Aotearoa NZ’ as ‘NZ’, ‘Aotearoa’ and ‘New Zealand’ have been removed from all titles where they sit at the beginning or end.

We really appreciate your response, thank you. If you can get back to us on those two questions, that would be most helpful.

Best wishes,

Wendy

From: OIA_Requests (MSD) <OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz>

Date: Wednesday, 5 February 2025 at 11:12 AM

To: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>

Subject: Ministry of Social Development | Your Official Information Act Request

IN-CONFIDENCE

Kia ora Wendy McGuinness

Please find attached the Ministry’s response to your Official Information Act request.

Yours sincerely

Official Information team | Ministerial and Executive Services
Ministry of Social Development

Our Purpose:

We help New Zealanders to be safe, strong and independent.
Manaaki Tangata, Manaaki Whānau.

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Thursday, February 20, 2025 at 09:47:42 New Zealand Daylight Time

Subject: Re: OIA 2025/01 - 2024 GDS Index (29 - OT)
Date: Monday, 17 February 2025 at 12:01:14 PM New Zealand Daylight Time
From: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
To: OIA Requests (OT) <OIA_Requests@ot.govt.nz>
Attachments: image001.png

Kia ora,

Thank you for your timely OIA response.

We just had one question relating to [GDS23–18] [Social Sector Commissioning 2022– 2028 Action Plan](#):

Currently, this GDS is considered jointly held by Oranga Tamariki and MSD. However, your OIA response stated that MSD was the lead agency for this GDS.

Therefore, should this strategy be treated as:

- i. Jointly held between Oranga Tamariki and MSD, or
- ii. Solely held by MSD as the lead agency?

Many thanks,

Wendy

From: OIA Requests (OT) <OIA_Requests@ot.govt.nz>
Date: Wednesday, 5 February 2025 at 7:28 AM
To: GDS Index <gdsindex@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
Subject: RE: OIA 2025/01 - 2024 GDS Index (29 - OT)

IN-CONFIDENCE

Tēnā koe Wendy McGuinness

Please find attached a response to your Official Information Act request of 2 January 2025.

Nāku noa, nā

Ministerial Services
PO Box 546, Wellington 6140
✉ E: OIA_Requests@ot.govt.nz

