



Te Kawa Mataaho

Public Service Commission

19 June 2025

Wendy McGuinness

Dear Wendy

Official Information Request

Our Ref: PSCR 2025-0622

I refer to your official information request received on 9 June 2025 for:

“Can you provide the statistics for the second half of 2024 (Jul-Dec), so that we can update the table below? (FYI: a copy of this table can be found on our working paper, and we would like to add this new information to our existing table)

Can you explain why releases approved by Cabinet are not actually released? For example why was 402 approved to be released but only 233 actually released?

Can you explain what actions have been taken since the report (dated August 2024) to ensure that all those approved to be released are actually released to the public?”

Our response

As referred to in the *Cabinet Office Circular CO (23) 4 – Proactive release of Cabinet material* (the Circular), Cabinet agreed that departments be required to provide information to Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission (the Commission) every six months on the number of Cabinet papers approved for release by the relevant portfolio Minister and the number of Cabinet papers released, and that the Commission report this information to the Minister for the Public Service.

There are many reasons why a paper may not be released within the 30-day timeframe, which are set out in the Circular. Ultimately, decisions on release of papers are made by the responsible Minister and agencies support them to proactively release papers within the policy.

The following information is covered by your request and is publicly available on the Commission’s and the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet’s websites at the links provided for in the table below.

Item	Date	Document Description	Website Address
1	29 June 2023	Cabinet Office circular – CO (23) 4: Proactive Release of Cabinet Material: Updated Requirements	https://www.dPMC.govt.nz/publications/co-23-4-proactive-release-cabinet-material-updated-requirements
2	3 March 2025	MoSR 2025-0144 – REPORT – Proactive Release of Cabinet papers: July-December 2024	https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/assets/DirectoryFile/2025-0144-REPORT-Proactive-Release-of-Cabinet-papers-July-December-2024.pdf

Accordingly, I have refused your request for the documents listed in the above table under section 18(d) of the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) on the grounds the information requested is or will soon be publicly available.

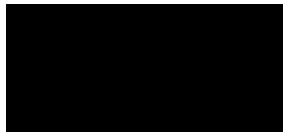
Some relevant information has been removed from documents listed in the above table and should continue to be withheld under the OIA, on the grounds described in the documents.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Enquiries@publicservice.govt.nz.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that we intend to publish this letter (with your personal details removed) on the Commission's website.

Yours sincerely

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**Manager – Ministerial and Executive Services
Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission**