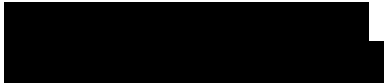




13 May 2026

Branch Performance
Partnerships and Commissions – Te Aukaha
PO Box 805, Wellington 6140
Email: OIA@dia.govt.nz
Website: www.dia.govt.nz

Wendy McGuinness and Arne Larsen
McGuinness Institute Te Hononga Waka



Kia ora Wendy and Arne,

Request for information (OIA 2526-1103)

Thank you for your request for information made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to the Department of Internal Affairs (the Department) received on 15 April 2026. You requested the following information:

We are reviewing the Covid 19 Phase Two Inquiry Terms of Reference and have some questions.

Q1: Please provide any definition, explanation, or intended meaning of the phrase “particular decisions” as used in section 6 (Limits to the inquiry’s scope) of the Terms of Reference, in relation to the Reserve Bank of New Zealand. This request relates to the following sentence: ‘particular decisions taken by the Reserve Bank’s independent monetary policy committee during the COVID 19 pandemic.’

Q2: Please provide any documents, briefings, or other material held by the Department of Internal Affairs that explain what types of Reserve Bank decisions are intended to be included or excluded by this wording.

Q3: If no definition or guidance exists, please confirm this.

Response to your request

The Department contacted you by phone on 7 May to discuss your request. Despite attempts to find information that may assist you, and an attempt at clarifying your request, you were advised no information was held in scope of your request.

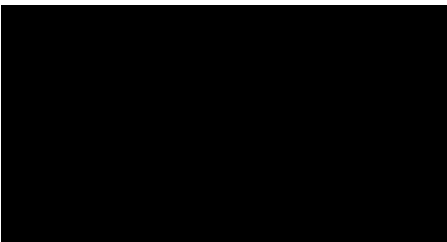
Therefore, the Department must refuse your request under section 18 (g) of the Act, because the information you have requested is not held by the Department and we have no grounds to believe the information is held by another department or more closely connected with the functions of another department.

As is required by section 9(1) of the Act, I have considered whether the grounds for withholding information under section 9(2) are outweighed by other considerations. In this instance, I do not consider that to be the case.

We may publish this OIA response on www.dia.govt.nz (with your personal details having been removed). Publishing responses to OIA requests increases the availability of information to the public and is consistent with the purpose of the Act to enable effective participation in the making and administration of laws and policies, and to promote the accountability of Ministers and officials.

If you have any concerns with the information in this response, you have a right to request an investigation and review by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act. Information on how to do this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



Partnerships and Commissions - Te Aukaha
Department of Internal Affairs - Te Tari Taiwhenua