

3 October 2023

Tēnā koe

On 8 September 2023, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

We'd like to thank you for the information provided in regards to our request providing correspondence between AFRA and MSD.

Upon perusing the information provided, we have noticed that all the information was in regards to AFRA's correspondence, and there were no replies from MSD on said information. As per the original request, we asked for any and ALL correspondence between AFRA and MSD regarding Rotorua Whakaora.

We respectfully request the rest of the correspondence from MSD's replies to AFRA in regards to Rotorua Whakaora under the OIA so that we are aware of both sides of the matter.

I confirm there is no further correspondence between the Ministry and Aotearoa Food Rescue Alliance regarding Rotorua Whakaora beyond what has already been provided to you on 17 February 2023, in response to your request for official information made on 9 December 2022. The correspondence provided to you included emails between the Ministry and AFRA, however, the email addresses of the recipients were redacted as out of scope.

As such, your request for any further correspondence is refused under section 18(e) of the Act as it does not exist.

The principles and purposes of the Official Information Act 1982 under which you made your request are:

- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter and any attached documents available to the wider public. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter on the Ministry's website. Your personal details will be deleted, and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

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 this response, 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

Sarah Quigan

Manager

Official Information Team