



24 June 2025

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 24 May 2025, in which you requested documents provided by the Ministry of Social Development to the Public Service Commission (PSC) as part of PSC's consultation on the Cabinet paper titled: **Repealing the Plain Language Act 2022**.

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), and I have found one email that was sent to PSC, in scope of your request. Please see this email enclosed with the letter as **Appendix**.

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: Consultation on Plain Language Act repeal - due 23 October

[In confidence]
Kia ora koutou.

We want to consult with each of your departments on the attached draft cabinet paper that proposes to repeal the Plain Language Act 2022.

The rationale for the repeal of the Act is to remove unnecessary legislation and reduce compliance costs on agencies. The expectation is that agencies continue to use plain language in their communications as a matter of good practice.

The key implementation changes for agencies will be the removal of the annual reporting requirement, removal of the requirement to designate a plain language officer (although these arrangements can be preserved at the discretion of agencies on an informal, voluntary basis), and the retraction of the Public Service Commission's guidance on complying with the requirements of the Act.

In view of the [Guidance on the distribution of Cabinet-related material](#), can you please ensure that you identify a responsible owner in your agency and that they are made aware of the Guidance on the appropriate handling of the attached Cabinet paper.

Could your nominated responsible owner please provide any feedback or comments to
 Out of scope Out of scope by **23 October 2024**.

Ngā mihi,
Hugo

Hugo Vitalis (he/him)
Tumu Whakarae Tuarua | Deputy Chief Executive
 Rautaki, Kaupapahere me te Ngākau Pono | Strategy, Policy, and Integrity
waea pūkoro: Out of scope | **īmēra:** Out of scope





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Confidentiality notice: This email may be confidential or legally privileged. If you have received it by mistake, please tell the sender immediately by reply, remove this email and the reply from your system, and don't act on it in any other way. Ngā mihi.

[IN-CONFIDENCE]

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