



Public Service Commission

Te Kawa Mataaho

19 June 2026

9(2)(a) privacy

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Official Information Request

Our Ref: OIA 2026-0134

I refer to your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request received by the Public Service Commission Te Kawa Mataaho (the Commission) on 21 May 2026 for:

- *All advice regarding mergers of any public sectors departments, agencies or crown entities, since 1 Jul 2025 – excluding advice on MCERT*
- *All correspondence regarding mergers of any public sectors departments, agencies or crown entities, since 1 Jul 2025, between Tier 2 and above leaders, and any Ministers,*

On 5 June 2026, we wrote to you seeking refinement of your request, as currently framed, your request is broad and would require substantial collation and research to identify and review relevant information across multiple agencies and portfolios. On 8 June 2026 you replied saying:

Thank you for your email. Could you advise what mergers have been proposed since 1 July 2025 to help with limiting this request to specific agencies, sectors, or merger initiatives?

This request could be refined to briefings on specific merger proposals which have gone to Ministers- ie specific proposed mergers which have been scoped out somewhat, rather than generalised advice which may appear across multiple pieces of advice.

Our response

On 27 February 2026, we responded to a similar request from you [[OIA 2025-0201](#)] where we provided you with the documents in scope of your request for the period 1 November 2024 – 8 December 2025. Therefore, this response captures information since 9 December 2025.

There are additional documents covered by part one of your request that I have decided to withhold in full under the following sections of the OIA, as applicable:

- section 9(2)(f)(iv) – to maintain the current constitutional conventions protecting the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers and officials

- section 9(2)(g)(i) – to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to Ministers of the Crown or members of an organisation or officers and employees of any public service agency or organisation in the course of their duty

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the OIA.

We are refusing part two of your request under section 18(f) of the OIA on the grounds that the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

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 response (with your personal details removed) on the Commission's website.

Yours sincerely



Nicky Dirks

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