



Public Service Commission
Te Kawa Mataaho

23 June 2026

9(2)(a) privacy

9(2)(a) privacy

Official Information Request
Our Ref: OIA2026-0142

I refer to your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request received by the Public Service Commission (the Commission) on 25 May 2026:

“...for the period of Jan 1, 2026 – present:

All communications (including but not limited to meeting notes or minutes, records of telephone calls and any electronic communications via email, SMS, messaging apps e.g. WhatsApp) between ministers and staff at the ministries for Public Service & Digitising Government, DPMC, Treasury and MBIE, and representatives from Microsoft relating to the use of AI in the public sector.”

Information being released

Please find enclosed the following documents:

Item	Date	Document Description	Decision
1	19 February 2026	EMAIL: Exclusive CEO Executive Engagement with Microsoft’s Chairman and CEO, Satya Nadella	Released in part
2	25 February 2026	EMAIL: RE: Placeholder: MCSSA quarterly governance meeting – MS Teams	Released in part
3	27 February 2026	MEETING MINUTES: Microsoft and DIA Strategic Governance Meeting	Released in part

4	6 March 2026	EMAIL: Re: The Microsoft AI Tour is on its way to Auckland! You are the first in line – reserve your seat today.	Released in part
5	13 March 2026	EMAIL: DIA NZ Microsoft – thank you and next steps	Released in part
6	13 March 2026	EMAIL: Your invitation to CEO Connection with Satya Nadella at the Microsoft AI Tour Auckland	Released in part
7	28 April 2026	EMAIL: Join Us – Microsoft Roundtable: Securing AI at Scale in Public Sector	Released in part
8	4 May 2026	EMAIL: RE: Thank you and follow-up from our recent vendor discussion	Released in part
9	4 May 2026	EMAIL: AI in Practice Workshop Invitation – 12 May in Wellington	Released in part
10	13 May 2026	EMAIL INVITATION: Microsoft & GDDA connection	Released in part
11	13 May 2026	MEETING NOTES – Microsoft 13 May	Released in part
12	14 May 2026	MEETING NOTES – Microsoft meeting	Released in part
13	15 May 2026	EMAIL: Follow up on from our meeting	Released in part
14	18 May 2026	EMAIL: Agenda for today	Released in part
15	18 May 2026	MEETING NOTES – Microsoft 18 May	Released in part
16	25 May 2026	EMAIL: RE: NZ Govt Microsoft	Released in part
17	25 May 2026	EMAIL: Fw: M365 E7 Frontier Offer – NZ Public Sector (valid to 24 June 2026)	Released in part

I have decided to release the documents listed above, subject to information being withheld under the following sections of the OIA, as applicable:

- section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people
- section 9(2)(b)(ii) – to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information

- section 9(2)(ba)(i) – protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied

I have also redacted parts of the document that are not in scope of your request above.

Information being withheld

There is additional information covered by your request that I have decided to withhold in full under the section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the OIA in order to protect information, where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.

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

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

From: [Jane Livesey](#)
To: [Brian Roche](#)
Cc: [Toni Vincent](#); [Steven Miller](#); [Emma Bessey](#); s9(2)(a)
Subject: Exclusive CEO Executive Engagement with Microsoft's Chairman and CEO, Satya Nadella
Date: 19 February 2026 16:44:06

This email was sent from someone outside of Te Kawa Mataaho. Please take extra care.

Hi Sir Brian,

As part of [Microsoft's upcoming AI Tour](#), I'm pleased to invite you to an exclusive CEO Executive Engagement with Microsoft's Chairman and CEO, Satya Nadella.

This small, curated discussion will bring together a select group of senior leaders for an open exchange on strategic priorities, AI transformation journeys, and perspectives on how technology is shaping the future of your industry. It will also provide an opportunity for Microsoft to listen and learn how we can best support your organisation's ambitions.

Details:

Exclusive CEO Executive Engagement with Microsoft's Chairman and CEO, Satya Nadella

Tuesday 21st April

1:30-2.10pm

Auckland International Convention Centre

Further details will be shared closer to the session to ensure we maximise the value of the discussion. Please reply to this email to confirm your availability.

I look forward to hosting you.

Warm regards,

Jane Livesey

From: [Nigel Banks](#)
To: [Richard Ashworth](#); [Kevin McCashin](#); [Katrina Banks](#); [Robert Te Moana](#); [s9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
[a](#); [Shervlee Gregory](#); [s9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
Cc: [Pedro Ramirez](#); [s](#); [s9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
Subject: RE: Placeholder: MCSSA quarterly governance meeting - MS Teams
Date: 25 February 2026 09:15:38
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Hi All

Please find agenda as it stands for Friday:

Out of Scope

2. Co-Pilot (Pedro & Emma)

Out of Scope

Look forward to seeing everyone on Friday (I'll be online)

Regards

Nigel.

Out of Scope

Out of Scope



Meeting minutes

Microsoft and DIA Strategic Governance Meeting

Date and time of meeting	27 February 2026 01:30pm – 02:30pm
Location	Teams Meeting
Attendees	GCDO: Richard Ashworth; Kevin McCashin; Robert Te Moana; Nigel Banks; Lipin Paul; Pedro Ramirez. s9(2)(a) Emma Bessey; s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a)
Apologies	Katrina Banks
Chair	Nigel Banks (GCDO)
Date of next meeting	May 2026 (TBC)

Out of Scope

Out of Scope

Out of Scope



2. Copilot

2.1 Key Points from GCDO(Pedro)

- Prepared to contact all BPOs with suggestions.
- Will circulate relevant AI guidance and information.
- Working on the programme for 15 initiatives.
- Discussed deliverables with Emma, targeting completion by end of financial year and full implementation by September.
- Proposed Copilot training for the Public Sector:
 - Identify initial groups
 - Define recommended use cases (e.g., FLO, TRP)
- 1:1 session is beneficial, but broader structured training will be required.

2.2 Key Points from MS(Emma)

- Queried whether the tools are intuitive enough.
- Noted that smaller training groups are more effective.
- Uptake is increasing, and teams will require more structured support.
- Additional Notes
- Mention of 16 June: Copilot Chat capability.

Action: No actions.

Out of Scope



Out of Scope



Out of Scope



Out of Scope



From: [Emma Bessey](#)
To: [Richard Ashworth](#)
Subject: Re: The Microsoft AI Tour is on its way to Auckland! You are first in line—reserve your seat today.
Date: 06 March 2026 16:28:00
Attachments: [image.png](#)
[image.png](#)
[image.png](#)

Hi Richard,

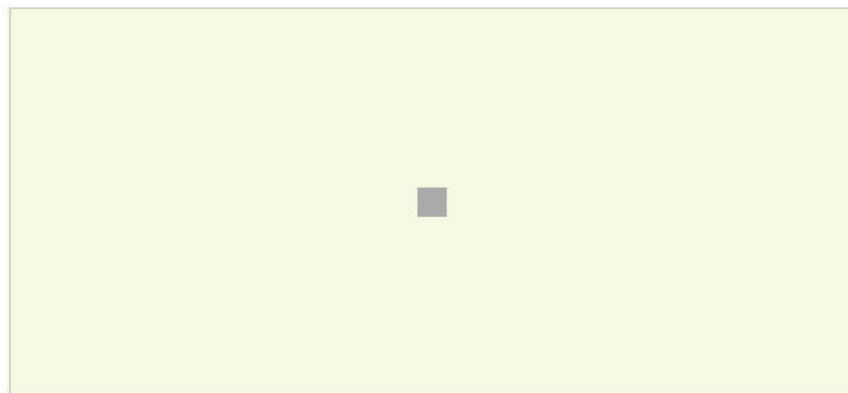
Also just a note that both Paul James and Myles Ward will be invited to a CEO Roundtable with Satya Nadella on the same day. These invites will be out early next week.

Have a great weekend!

Emma

Emma Bessey | Public Sector Director
Microsoft New Zealand | **s9(2)(a)**

From: Emma Bessey **s9(2)(a)**
Sent: Friday, 6 March 2026 4:25 pm
To: Richard Ashworth <richard.ashworth@dia.govt.nz>; Nigel Banks <nigel.banks@dia.govt.nz>; Malcolm Breadmore <malcolm.breadmore@dia.govt.nz>; sherylee.gregory <sherylee.gregory@dia.govt.nz>; Pedro Ramirez <pedro.ramirez3@dia.govt.nz>
Subject: The Microsoft AI Tour is on its way to Auckland! You are first in line—reserve your seat today.



Registration is now open for the Microsoft AI Tour in Auckland on April 21!

Request to attend (Use the access code <**AIT2ATSLL**> to reserve your spot immediately)

Hi Team GCDO - would love to host you at our Auckland AI Tour in April!

I'm excited to share that as a valued customer, you're among the first to receive access to register for the Microsoft AI Tour Auckland—a limited-capacity, in-person event built for business and tech leaders driving AI strategy forward.

It's a great opportunity to:

- See how others in your industry are solving real-world

challenges with AI.

- Get hands-on with new Microsoft tools.
- Connect with product experts and peers.
- Explore what AI can make possible for your business today.

Plus, hear from **Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Satya Nadella**, as he shares how this new wave of technology is redefining what's possible in the world of work.

If you're planning to invest in AI, or even just curious where to start, this is time well spent.

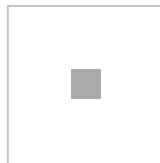
This event is free, but space is limited, and acceptance is required.

Use the access code <**AIT2ATSLL**> to reserve your spot.

[Request to attend](#)

I look forward to seeing you there!
Emma & the Microsoft team

Featured Keynote Speaker



Satya Nadella
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer,
Microsoft

We respect your privacy. To learn more, please read our [Privacy Statement](#).

Microsoft Pty Limited
22 The Viaduct, Auckland City



From: [Jane Livesey](#)
To: [Paul James](#)
Cc: [Sue Goile](#); [s9\(2\)\(a\)](#); [Emma Bessey](#); [s9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
Subject: DIA NZ | Microsoft - Thank you and next steps
Date: 13 March 2026 14:25:21

Dear Paul

Thank you for taking the time to visit our Sydney office yesterday. It was a pleasure to meet with you, and I valued the quality and depth of our discussion.

Our conversation reinforced that many of the principles underpinning earlier Digital Government initiatives remain highly relevant as agencies move into AI transformation. We aligned strongly on the importance of a platform-based approach—one that supports flexibility in model choice, strong governance, and disciplined cost control.

I also appreciated our discussion on balancing devolved operating models with the need for central oversight. A platform approach provides a pragmatic middle ground, enabling common and reusable capabilities while preserving agency autonomy and innovation.

Out of
Scope

Out of Scope

3. Continued discussion on the role of identity—for both people and AI agents—and the importance of a strong control plane for effective AI governance.

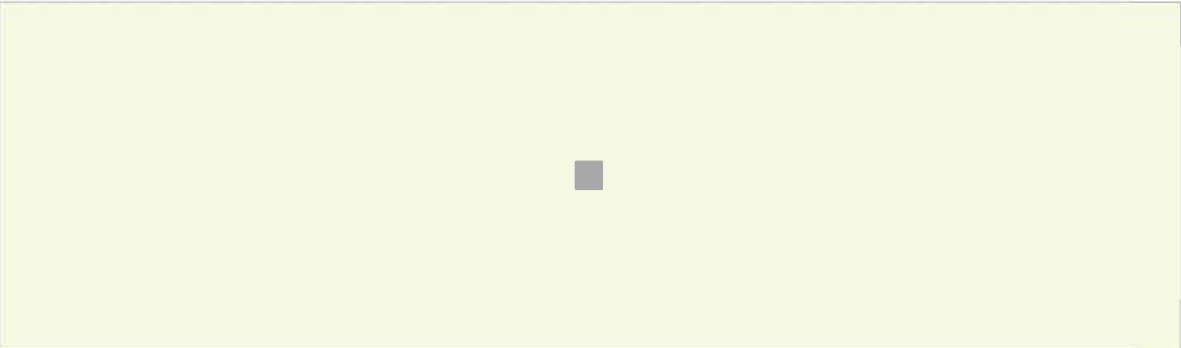
I also look forward to reconnecting during the AI Tour, where there is a meaningful opportunity to bring the best of Microsoft together in support of AI-driven capability uplift across the New Zealand Public Service.

Thank you again for your time and engagement. I look forward to continuing the conversation.

Kind regards

Jane

From: [Emma Bessey](#)
To: [Myles Ward](#)
Cc: [Jane Livesey](#); [Microsoft ANZ Executive Visits](#); [Vivek Puthucode](#)
Subject: Your invitation to CEO Connection with Satya Nadella at the Microsoft AI Tour Auckland
Date: 13 March 2026 14:52:57



Kia ora Myles,

I'm pleased to invite you to an exclusive CEO Connection event with Satya Nadella, Microsoft Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and Jane Livesey, President for Microsoft Australia and New Zealand.

The invite-only CEO Connection runs alongside our **Microsoft AI Tour Auckland on Tuesday 21 April**. You will experience the opening keynote delivered by Satya Nadella. Directly following the keynote, you will be escorted to an exclusive networking space for refreshments and then join the CEO Connection conversation with senior business leaders. This is an in-conversation format, providing a unique opportunity where you can ask questions directly.

As a CEO Connection guest, you'll enjoy:

- VIP reserved seating at Satya Nadella's keynote.
- Invite-only access to the CEO Connection with Satya and Jane to discuss your organisation's AI Transformation including open Q&A.
- Full-day event access to stay and explore the Microsoft AI Tour Auckland.

Agenda	
9:30AM – 10:00AM	Executive check-in onsite
10:00AM – 11:45AM	Microsoft AI Tour Auckland keynote with Satya
11:45AM – 12:10PM	Executive networking with refreshments
12:10PM – 12:35PM	CEO Connection event with Satya & Jane

Venue
Microsoft AI Tour and CEO Connection – NZICC, Auckland

To confirm your attendance, please register via the [AI Tour webpage](#) below and enter the unique code **AIT2CEXC** to reserve your seat today. This ensures you are registered for both Satya Nadella's keynote at the Microsoft AI Tour and the CEO Connection. As you have been personally invited your code is for your use only. If you cannot attend but want to recommend another senior executive from your organisation, please let me know by replying.

Please note that registration closes Friday, 17 April.

[Register to attend](#)

Thank you.
Emma

	Satya Nadella Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Microsoft
	Jane Livesey President for Microsoft Australia and New Zealand

If you prefer I not forward you these types of communications, just let me know. To learn how to manage your contact preferences for other parts of Microsoft, please read our [Privacy Statement](#).
Microsoft Australia Pty Limited, L24–30, 1 Denison St, North Sydney NSW 2060 Australia

From: [Emma Bessey](#)
To: [Nigel Banks](#); [Richard Ashworth](#); [Katrina Banks](#)
Cc: [s9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
Subject: Join Us - Microsoft Roundtable: Securing AI at Scale in Public Sector
Date: 28 April 2026 18:04:55
Attachments: [Outlook-mytonbap.png](#)
[Outlook-ct1upno2.png](#)
[Outlook-e5bsoxhe.png](#)

Kia ora team,

I would like to invite you to the below workshop we are hosting on 12th May in Wellington. Please pass on to any others that would find this relevant from across GDDA, GCSB or agencies. We are also inviting agencies via our contacts.



Dear GDDA Team

Join us for an exclusive Security Roundtable for NZ Public Sector leaders at the Microsoft Wellington Office on Tuesday 12th May 2026.

Facilitated by the Microsoft Innovation Hub, this curated session brings together senior security and digital leaders to explore how AI and agents are fundamentally reshaping the threat landscape - and what it takes to securely scale adoption across government environments.

As AI agents and automation accelerate, government entities face a critical challenge - **how do you enable innovation at speed while maintaining control of risk, security and public trust?**

Through engaging conversations and peer exchange, this session is designed to move beyond theory into practical, defensible approaches for governing and securing AI at scale.

What to Expect

- **From AI ambition to secure delivery:** A practical lens on moving from AI experimentation to sustained, secure transformation

DATE

12 May 2026

TIME

9:30 AM – 1:00 PM

PLACE

Microsoft Office Wellington

10 Brandon Street

Wellington Central

[Register Now!](#)

- **Threat & trust level set:** Understanding what's changed and how AI is reshaping both attacker capabilities and defensive strategies
- **Roundtable discussion - scaling AI safely:** Scale AI safely by shifting from fragmented controls to enterprise guardrails that enable safe experimentation
- **Roundtable discussion - control agent autonomy using zero trust:** Explore identity led, least privilege models to govern non-human identities and AI agents
- **Networking** with trusted peers and Microsoft experts

Why Attend

- Gain exclusive insights into emerging trends in securing AI based workloads
- Decision frameworks to move from pilots to scalable, secure AI delivery
- Hear real-world stories from peers and industry experts
- Leave with fresh ideas and practical next steps to accelerate transformation

Who Should Attend

Tailored for security, architecture, engineering and risk leaders.

Attendance is by invitation only. If you've received an invite, register early to secure your seat.

We look forward to welcoming you for a morning of strategic insight, peer collaboration, and forward-looking discussion.

Agenda

9:30 AM - 9:40 AM	Welcome & top of mind
9:40 AM - 10:00 AM	From AI ambition to secure delivery
10:30 AM - 10:45 AM	Morning Tea
10:45 AM - 11:30 AM	Workshop 1 - Scale AI safely without slowing delivery
11:30 AM - 12:15 PM	Workshop 2 - Control agent autonomy through zero trust
12:15 PM - 12:30 PM	Wrap up & close

12:30 PM - 01:00 PM

Lunch & Networking

To join this event, simply register below

Register Now!

We look forward to welcoming you.

Best regards,

Emma Bessey

If you prefer I not forward you these types of communications, just let me know. To learn how to manage your contact preferences for other parts of Microsoft, please read our [Privacy Statement](#).

Microsoft Office - Wellington



From: s9(2)(a)
To: Danielle Finnie; Emma Bessey; Myles Ward; Richard Ashworth
Subject: RE: Thank you and follow-up from our recent vendor discussion
Date: 04 May 2026 11:37:19
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.jpg](#)
[image008.png](#)

Out of Scope



From: Emma Bessey s9(2)(a)
Sent: Saturday, May 2, 2026 3:01 PM
To: Myles Ward <myles.ward@dia.govt.nz>; Richard Ashworth <richard.ashworth@gdda.govt.nz>
Cc: Daniel Beard s9(2)(a)
Subject: Thank you and follow-up from our recent vendor discussion
Hi Myles and Richard,

Out of Scope



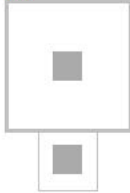
Our ANZ Director of AI Business Solutions, **Fiona Sims**, will be in **Wellington on 12–13 May**, and we would very much value the opportunity to bring Fiona into a discussion with you. Fiona leads our **Modern Work** team and is deeply focused on how AI-enabled, secure and user-centric workspaces can support government outcomes. A conversation with Fiona would

be a great opportunity to explore your thinking on future government workspace in more depth, and to share some of the patterns we're seeing across government and internationally.

Can you please let me know your availability on 12-13th May? We'd be happy to work around your schedule.

Thanks again, and I look forward to continuing the conversation.

Emma



Emma Bessey

Public Sector Director

Women @ Microsoft Executive

Sponsor

Microsoft New Zealand

s9(2)(a)

From: [Emma Bessey](#)
To: [Richard Ashworth](#); [Pedro Ramirez](#); [Phil Weir](#); [Monica Greenan](#)
Cc: [s9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
Subject: AI in Practice Workshop Invitation - 12 May in Wellington
Date: 04 May 2026 21:04:27
Attachments: [Outlook-obbnjib0.png](#)
[Outlook-c4vfizqz.png](#)
[Outlook-um3bnkib.png](#)
[Outlook-Register N.png](#)
Importance: High



Dear GDDA Team

We'd love to have you join this event if you can make it - please feel free to share across GDDA or more broadly.

Following the strong interest generated during the Microsoft AI Tour, many organisations are now asking the next practical question: **how do you actually start using AI in a way that delivers real value?**

Join us for an **AI in Practice Workshop** at the Microsoft Wellington Office on **Tuesday 12 May 2026**.

The **Microsoft Innovation Hub** team from Sydney will be in Wellington to host the session, drawing on their experience helping organisations across the region design and operationalise AI-driven transformation. This session is designed to move beyond inspiration and focus on the practical steps organisations are taking to explore, prioritise, and implement AI.

During the workshop, we will introduce a **structured approach to defining AI use cases** using a practical canvas that examines the real problem being addressed, the potential decision or workflow impact, where human judgement remains essential, and the risks or dependencies involved. We will then explore **how to prioritise opportunities**, ensuring organisations focus on initiatives that are both meaningful and achievable.

To bring this to life, the session will walk through **three common paths** organisations are using **Microsoft technologies to deploy AI today**:

- **Copilot (no-code)** for productivity and knowledge-work scenarios
- **Copilot Studio (low-code)** for tailored copilots and AI-driven processes
- **Custom AI solutions (pro-code)** built as integrated applications

We will look at these options first through a **business and use-case lens** and then move into a deeper discussion of how those choices translate into real solutions.

We will walk through the **solutioning perspective**, covering practical considerations around how AI capabilities connect into organisational systems,

DATE

12 May 2026

TIME

9:30 AM – 1:00 PM

PLACE

Microsoft Office
Wellington

10 Brandon
Street

Wellington
Central

[Register Now!](#)



data, and workflows.

The goal of the session is to share practical approaches that help leaders progress from **AI curiosity to credible starting points for implementation.**

What to Expect

- A practical method for **defining and shaping AI use cases**
- A framework for **prioritising AI opportunities**
- Introduction to **three paths for implementing AI** (no-code, low-code, and pro-code)
- A real-world view of **how those approaches translate into implemented solutions**
- Discussion with peers and Microsoft Innovation Hub experts

Why Attend

- Move from **AI interest to practical next steps**
- Learn how organisations are **identifying and prioritising the right AI opportunities**
- Understand how AI solutions are **designed and implemented in real environments**
- Leave with **frameworks and ideas** to bring back to your organisation

Who Should Attend

Business, digital, technology, architecture, data, and transformation leaders interested in practical approaches to adopting AI within their organisations.

Attendance is by invitation only. If you have received an invitation, please register early to secure your place.

We look forward to welcoming you for a practical and engaging session focused on helping organisations move from AI interest to real implementation.

Agenda

9:30 AM - 9:40 AM	Welcome & Introduction
9:40 AM - 10:00 AM	How AI is reshaping work and decision-making
10:00 AM - 10:20 AM	From opportunity to use case
10:20 AM - 10:30 AM	Prioritising where to start
10:30 AM - 11:15 AM	Morning Tea
11:15 AM - 11:15 AM	From use cases to implementation paths

11:15 PM - 12:15 PM	From design to solution
12:15 PM - 12:30 PM	Wrap-up & discussion
12:30 PM - 1:00 PM	Lunch & Networking

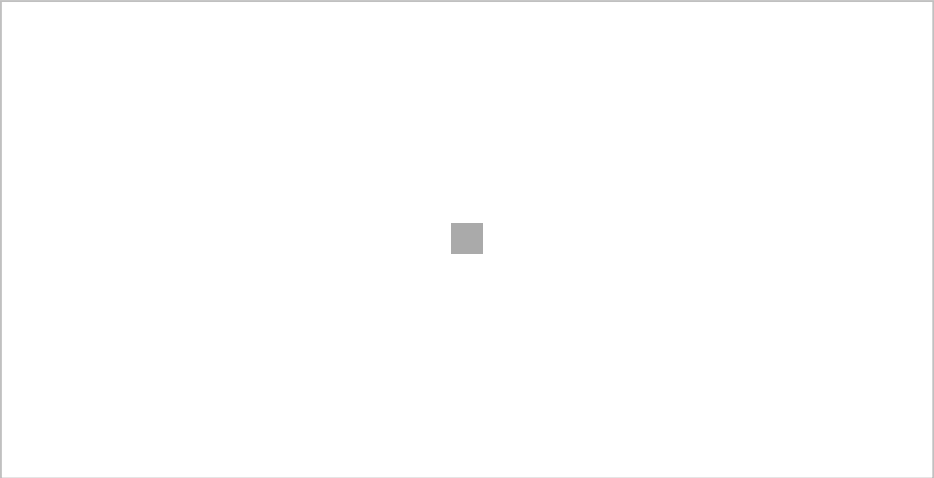
To join this event, simply register below



We look forward to welcoming you.

Best regards,

Emma



From: [Emma Bessey](#)
To: [s9\(2\)\(a\)](#) [Myles Ward](#); [Richard Ashworth](#); [s9\(2\)\(a\)](#) [s9\(2\)\(a\)](#).
Cc: [Myles Ward](#); [Nigel Banks](#)
Subject: Microsoft & GDDA connection

Hi Myles and Richard,

We are keen to introduce you to Fiona Sims who leads our AI Workforce Solutions business for ANZ, and share with you some of the work we are partnering on with Fed govt in Australia, as well as understand more about the GDDA's objectives in this space and how this may inform our MCSSA renewal.

Thank you
Emma

Out of Scope



Meeting Notes – Microsoft 13 May

Intro meeting – Fiona Sims with Vivek P, Daniel Beard, Emma Bessey

Purpose of meeting – intro to Fiona, understand how Australia has approached similar issues and opportunities to NZ

Out of Scope



- General discussion about moving to cloud, how we need to take cost out, how to leverage AI to reduce time and effort across govt

Out of Scope



Microsoft

⊗ Part - Budget - follow-up meeting. (2 hours)

s9(2)(ba)(i)

incentives
accountability
avoidance techniques /
myths etc. } issues

s9(2)(ba)(i)

Ireland ✓
Australia ✓
Singapore ~
Estonia ~
UK ~

no copy/paste but keen to see
how MS works in other
countries

A1 - importance of skilling / mindset

s9(2)(ba)(i)

OIA's / WPQs / cars etc ⊗ - follow up on A1s

↳ What are the use cases MS is using?

s9(2)(ba)(i)

From: s9(2)
To: s9(2)(a)worth
Cc: Emma Bessey, Tam Beagall
Subject: Follow on from our Meeting
Date: 15 May 2026 09:21:30
Attachments: image001.png

Richard

It was nice to meet you face to face earlier this week. A couple of actions I want to pick up and ask you about.

- Share our reusable persona-based Copilot findings and common patterns that we have been sharing with NZ Gov which has been received very well.

Out of Scope

We could do both over teams to start with please suggest what works.

Kind regards

s9(2)(a)
s9(2)(a)
s9(2)(a)
s9(2)(a)
s9(2)(a)

From: [Nigel Banks](#)
To: [Richard Ashworth](#); "Emma Bessey"; s9(2)(a); [Robert Te Moana](#); s9(2)(a); [Pedro Ramirez](#); s9(2)(a)
Subject: Agenda for Today
Date: 18 May 2026 10:02:19
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Morning All

Apologies for the late Agenda. None the less, the following matters have been identified for discussion

Co-Chairs: Richard Ashworth and Emma Bessey

Out of Scope



- Update of AI

Out of Scope



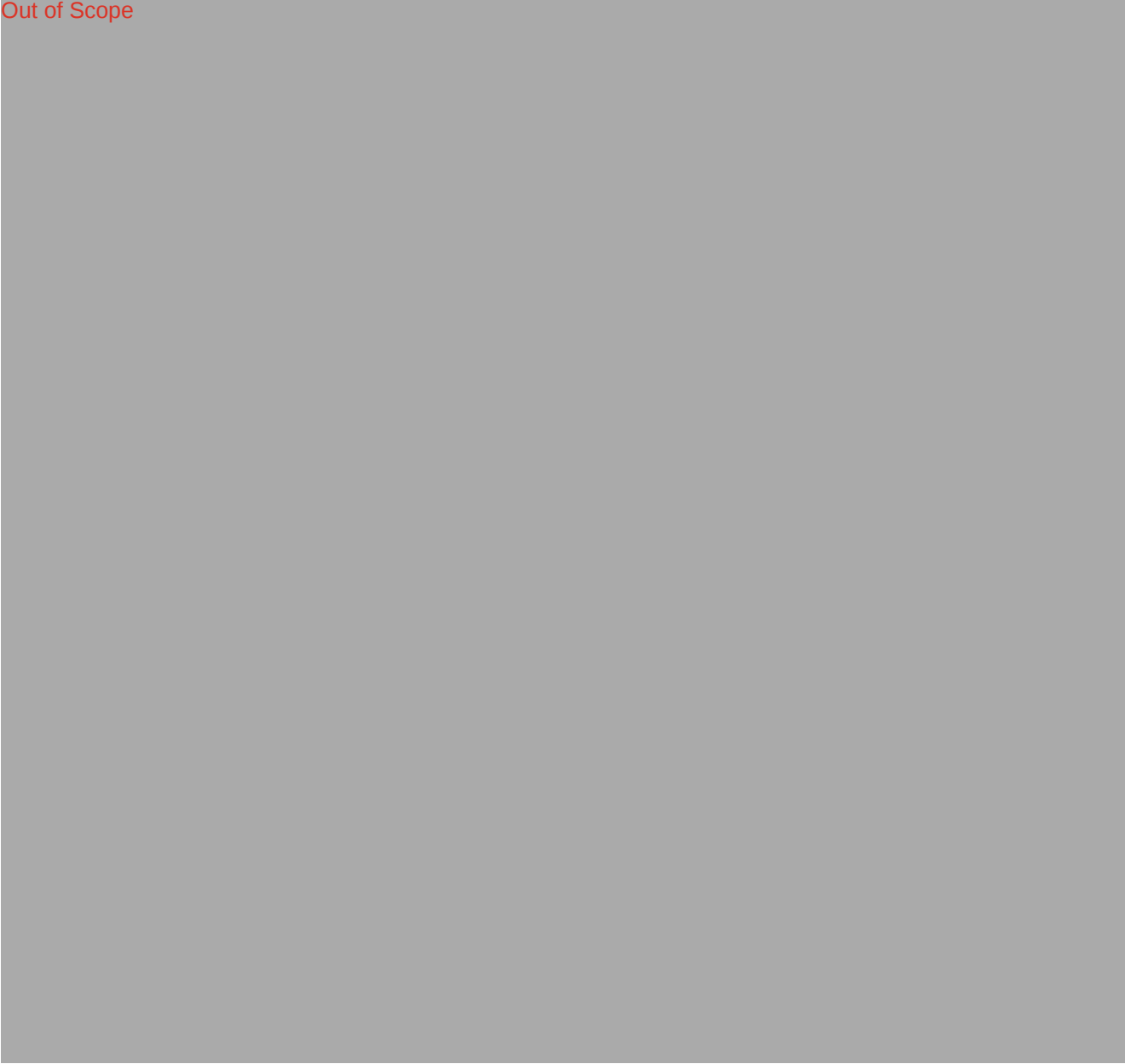
Regards

Nigel Banks | Manager Commercial and Supplier Relationships
Government Digital Services Delivery | Government Digital Delivery Agency
www.jobs.govt.nz | www.data.govt.nz | www.marketplace.govt.nz



Meeting Notes – Microsoft 18 May

Out of Scope



- How do we think about Certification in an AI world

From: [Brian Roche](#)
To: [Steven Miller](#)
Cc: [Myles Ward](#); [Emma Bessey](#); [s9\(2\)\(a\)](#) [Toni Vincent](#)
Subject: Re: NZ Govt | Microsoft
Attachments: [image001.gif](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.jpg](#)
[image004.jpg](#)
[image005.jpg](#)
[image006.png](#)

Out of Scope



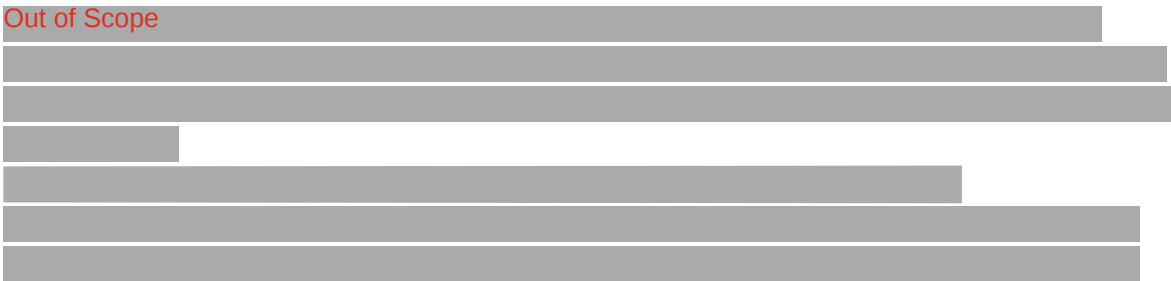
From: Steven Miller
Sent: Monday, May 25, 2026 12:02 PM
To: Brian Roche
Cc: Myles Ward ; Emma Bessey ; [s9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
Subject: NZ Govt | Microsoft

This email was sent from someone outside of Te Kawa Mataaho. Please take extra care.

Hello Sir Brian,

Thank you again for taking the time to meet with us last week, it was a genuinely valuable and candid discussion.

Out of Scope



Out of Scope

[REDACTED]. The discussion around reusable, cross-agency platforms, and the potential for AI to support areas such as official information requests and parliamentary processes is a strong example of where this could take shape.

Out of Scope

Ngā mihi,

Steven



Steven Miller

Area Vice President
Microsoft Australia & New
Zealand

s9(2)(a)



One Microsoft Way, Redmond, WA 98052 USA | [Privacy Statement](#)



Microsoft acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands and waters on which we operate, and pay our respects to Elders past and present.

Our mission is to empower **every** person and **every** organization on the planet to achieve more.

We work flexibly at Microsoft. If you receive an email from me outside normal business, I am sending it at that time as it suits me. I'm not expecting you to read or reply until your normal business hours

From: [Emma Bessey](#)
To: [Richard Ashworth](#); [Lipin Paul](#); [Nigel Banks](#); [Rachael Lattimore](#)
Subject: Fw: M365 E7 Frontier Offer – NZ Public Sector (valid to 24 June 2026)
Date: 25 May 2026 14:14:17
Attachments: s9(2)(b)(ii)

Hi Team

In response to several agencies asking for E7 pricing (which has just become available this month) we have responded with the below offer and we are working with a handful of agencies who are looking to take this up. E7 is a brand-new product to MCSSA but any purchases will be made via normal MCSSA process. We appreciate cost pressures so are working with agencies on whether E7 is the right solution for their profile. s9(2)(b)(ii)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Thanks Lipin for your note earlier today - yes we need to set up the pricing committee to work together on pricing for both M365 Copilot and E7 for 1 Oct. I am keen to get this agreed within the next 2-3 weeks so that we don't delay agencies ability to confirm 1 Oct BoMs.

Emma

Hi team,

I wanted to share the attached overview of the **Microsoft 365 E7 Frontier offer for NZ Public Sector agencies**, now available under the MCSSA framework.

At a high level, this offer is designed to support agencies transitioning from experimentation to **deliberate, governed AI adoption**, aligned with growing expectations from central government and regulators.

Why this is relevant now

- There is a clear shift toward **intentional use of AI across services and operations**, rather than "wait and see".
- As AI agents begin to scale, **identity, governance, and auditability become critical** to maintain trust and compliance.

What's included in M365 E7

The E7 suite brings together three core capabilities into a single license:

- **Secure productivity:** Full M365 E5 + Entra Suite (identity, security, compliance)
- **Human productivity:** Microsoft 365 Copilot across core apps
- **Agent productivity:** Governance and control for AI agents (Agent Control Suite)

This combination is designed to ensure agencies can **scale AI safely while maintaining control over data, access, and agent behaviour.**

s9(2)(b)(ii)

-
-
-
-

s9(2)(b)(ii)

-
-
-

Suggested next step

If this is of interest, we recommend a short working session to:

- Validate your current E5 / Copilot position
- Confirm the most applicable pricing scenario
- Outline a path to meet the June commitment window
- Discuss the offer and provide feedback
- s9(2)(b)(ii)

Please let me know a convenient time, or feel free to reach out directly if you'd like to explore this further. We understand that the timing may not be ideal, if you want to discuss alternatives to this offer or perhaps look at a standalone Copilot offer please reach out. You will also receive the standard MCSSA offer in the coming weeks.

s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

☐

[Book time to meet with me](#)