

30 July 2026



Public Service Commission
Te Kawa Mataaho

9(2)(a) privacy

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Official Information Request
Our Ref: OIA 2026-0181

I refer to your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request received by the Public Service Commission Te Kawa Mataaho (the Commission) on 17 June 2026 for:

“Can I please request through the OIA all communication within PSC regarding the review of the Biometric Capability Projects that was received last week? This is intended to include any communication from/to the Public Service Commissioner as well as any other staff who interacted with the report?”

Can I also request all communication within PSC regarding to the project's termination in late 2025?”

Information being released – part one

Listed in the table below are communications within the Commission related to the Biometric Capability Projects review during the week preceding 17 June 2026 (the date of your request).

Item	Date	Document Description	Decision
1	11 June 2026	Email to Chief Advisor	Released in part
2	11 June 2026	Email to PSC Media and Chief Advisor (includes three attachments)	Released in part
3	11 June 2026	Email to Public Service Commissioner	Released in part
4	13 June 2026	Email to Assistant Commissioner	Released in part
5	13 June 2026	Email to Public Service Commissioner	Released in part
6	13 June 2026	Email to Assistant Commissioner	Released in part
7	13 June 2026	Email to Public Service Commissioner	Released in part

8	10-11 June 2026	Text messages between Assistant Commissioner and Chief Advisor	Released in part
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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)(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 addition, some information has been deleted where it is not within the scope of your request. In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the OIA.

We are currently preparing the documents outlined in our response for release and will provide these to you no later than 11 August 2026.

Information does not exist – part two

The Commission has no documents within scope of part two of your request, we are therefore refusing this part of your request under section 18(e) of the OIA on the grounds the information does not exist.

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