

Hon Andrew Little

Minister of Health
Minister Responsible for the GCSB
Minister Responsible for the NZSIS
Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations
Minister Responsible for Pike River Re-entry

Lead Coordination Minister for the Government's Response to the Royal Commission's Report into the Terrorist Attack on the Christchurch Mosques



Micky Turner
fyi-request-15300-6172d33f@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: AL HTU 2021-018

Dear Micky Turner

Official Information Act request relating to your previous request

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request, received on 2 July 2021. You requested:

- "1. Any written evidence in relation to the 'previous' request made - discussing the consideration of consulting with me (include emails from consultants etc)*
- 2. The cost of consultants or lawyers engaged to work on the previous request"*

As you note, section 18B sets out a duty to consider consulting the requestor, where it is believed consultation would assist in the refinement of the request. No written record was kept of the decision made to not consult on this matter. However, I note the response clarified the rationale of the determination to refuse under section 18(e) and sought to provide relevant material relating to the decision making on the establishment of a Māori Health Authority. I believe the information I have directed you towards provides clarity on the purpose of the Māori Health Authority.

As no document exists in relation to part one of your request, for the purposes of the Act, I am refusing this part of your request under section 18(e), as no document exists. However, I do not believe consultation with you is necessary at this time, as I believe I have substantively answered your question, despite the requested document not existing.

In regard to part two of your request, no consultants or lawyers were hired to work on your previous request. I note that the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet provides administrative support to my office in the preparation of responses to Official Information Act requests relating to the Health Transition Unit.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

Yours sincerely

Hon Andrew Little
Minister of Health