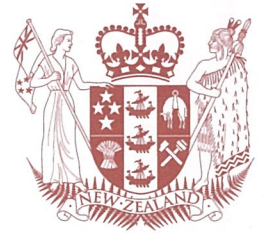


# Office of the Prime Minister



## Prime Minister

Minister for Arts, Culture & Heritage

Minister for Child Poverty Reduction

Minister for National Security & Intelligence

30 JUL 2018

Miles Stratford  
fyi-request-8195-ff8b1961@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: PMO 202-2018

Dear Miles Stratford

### **Official Information Act request for correspondence/meetings with the New Zealand Drug Foundation, Prime Minister's Chief Science Advisor or former Prime Minister Rt Hon Helen Clark**

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request, received on 2 July 2018. You requested:

*"Copies of written correspondence, meeting Minutes and participant notes between yourself and/or members of the Prime Ministers Office that have taken place with the NZ Drug Foundation and/or Ross Bell CEO of the NZ Drug Foundation relating to methamphetamine and drug use in New Zealand"*

*Copies of written correspondence, meeting Minutes and participant notes between yourself and/or members of the Prime Ministers Office that have taken place with former Prime Minister Helen Clarke relating to methamphetamine and drug use in New Zealand*

*Copies of written correspondence, meeting Minutes and participant notes between yourself and/or members of the Prime Ministers Office that have taken place with the Office of the Prime Minister's Chief Scientific Advisor relating to methamphetamine and drug use in New Zealand"*

Please find attached copies of correspondence between the New Zealand Drug Foundation and the Prime Minister, Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern or members of this Office. This correspondence enclosed copies of the Drug Foundation's October 2017 and March 2018 magazine "Matters of Substance", and a copy of the Drug Foundations Briefing to the Incoming Parliament 2017. These reports are available on the Drug Foundations website: <https://www.drugfoundation.org.nz/>. Accordingly, I am refusing your request in so far as it relates to these documents under section 18 (d) of the Act on the basis that the information is publicly available.

No information has been identified that is relevant to your request relating to the former Prime Minister, Rt Hon Helen Clark. Accordingly, I am refusing this part of your request under section 18(e) of the Act on the basis that "the document alleged to contain the information does not exist".

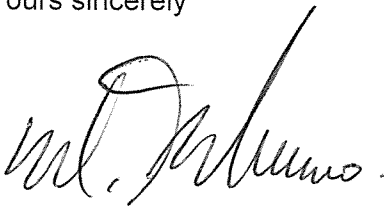
The following extracts from the Agendas of meetings dated 29 March 2018 and 31 May 2018 between the Prime Minister's Chief Scientific Advisor and the Prime Minister, relating to methamphetamine, has been identified as relevant to the third part of your request:

29 March 2018 - "Metamphetamine and housing; At the request of Minister Twyford my Office is undertaking a major piece of work on the issues of metamphetamine and housing. We have shared with the Minister the proposed outline of our report and would aim to have it to him by 7th May. We have undertaken a large number of interviews and discussions with the key public stakeholders to date."

31 May 2018 – "*Metamphetamine contamination and housing*; The Hon Phil Twford and myself will release the report this week".

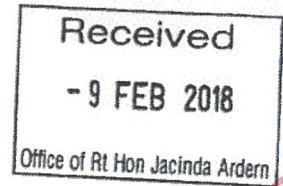
You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Munro". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent loop at the end.

Mike Munro  
Chief of Staff

7 February 2018



Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern  
Prime Minister  
Parliament Buildings  
Wellington

Tēnā koe Prime Minister

**Invitation to attend Addiction Sector Leadership Day, 22 March**

It is my great pleasure, on behalf of the National Committee for Addiction Treatment, to invite you to attend the first Addiction Sector Leadership of 2018, which will be held at Parliament on Thursday 22 March.

Addiction leadership days provide a platform to discuss new developments, showcase recent initiatives, provide sector input for key strategic documents, and network. This is an especially important event for the sector as we focus our attention on the government Inquiry into Mental Health and Addiction.

The day is formally hosted by Hon Dr David Clark, Minister of Health, who will provide a welcome speech. Other speakers and panellists will include members of the government Inquiry, as well as consumers, service managers, clinical directors and researchers.

A highlight of the day will be a presentation from the Rt Hon Helen Clark on the latest report of the Global Commission on Drug Policy, of which she is a Commissioner.

The event will be held in the Legislative Council Chamber and Grand Hall from 8.45am to 4.00pm. The full agenda will be made available closer to the date.

Please feel free to join the day at moments that suit your timetable. The lunch break will coincide with Parliament's break as well – this presents a good opportunity for you to meet and mingle with a range of people from across the alcohol and other drug addiction treatment sector.

Please RSVP to s9(2)(a) admin@drugfoundation.org.nz, 04 801 6303.

Ngā mihi nui

Ross Bell

On behalf of the National Committee for Addiction Treatment

Released Under the Official Information Act 1982

fA138776

12 April 2018

Ross Bell  
NZ Drug Foundation  
PO Box 3082  
**WELLINGTON**

Dear Ross Bell

I am writing on behalf of the Prime Minister, Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern, to thank you for your letter dated 29 March 2018 attaching a copy of the most recent issue of your magazine, "Matters of Substance".

Thank you for keeping the Prime Minister updated.

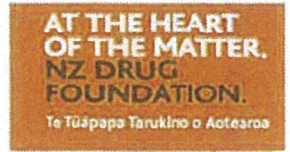
Best Wishes

s9(2)(a)

**Correspondence Manager**

Released Under the Official Information Act 1982





Received  
- 3 APR 2018  
Office of Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern

29 March 2018

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern  
Prime Minister  
Parliament Buildings  
Wellington 6011

Tēnā koe Prime Minister

Please find enclosed the most recent issue of our magazine, *Matters of Substance*

I'm very excited to enclose the latest issue of our magazine. We've done something pretty special this month by handing editorial control to two fabulous guest editors, Emma Espiner and Angus Lindsay. The result is inspiring

This issue provides deep insight into the different relationships people have with their alcohol and drug use. It shows that when it comes to substance use nothing is ever black and white. And therefore our responses to reducing the harm caused by alcohol and drugs need to be carefully tailored to the individual and their community.

These personal stories are especially important as we begin national discussions on our mental health and addiction services, and getting our drug legislation fit for purpose.

In fact, there seem to be plenty of drug and alcohol-related items on the Parliamentary agenda at present! Please do contact us at any time if you have questions or need a sounding board for your ideas. s9(2)(a)

Ngā mihi nui

Ross Bell  
Executive Director

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fA134033

3 July 2018

Ross Bell  
New Zealand Drug Foundation  
PO Box 3082  
**WELLINGTON**

Dear Ross Bell

I am writing on behalf of the Prime Minister, Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern, to thank you for your letter of 8 December 2017 attaching the Drug Foundation's Briefing to the Incoming Parliament and a copy of your model drug law, *Whakawatea te Huarahi*.

Thank you for updating Jacinda on this very important work.

Best Wishes

s9(2)(a)

Correspondence Manager

Released Under the Official Information Act 1982

8 December 2017



Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern  
Prime Minister  
Parliament Buildings  
Wellington 6011

Tēnā koe Prime Minister

### Priorities to reduce drug harm in New Zealand

It is my pleasure to enclose the Drug Foundation's Briefing to the Incoming Parliament. The briefing outlines four priority areas aimed at reducing alcohol and other drug harm:

- Priority 1: Keep young people in school and keep them safe
- Priority 2: Reform our laws to treat drug use as a health issue
- Priority 3: Invest more effectively in prevention, harm reduction and treatment
- Priority 4: Reduce drug harm in communities and respond to emerging challenges.

The briefing also provides background for some important decisions coming up in 2018 concerning medicinal cannabis, methamphetamine residue in houses and a review of the Psychoactive Substances Act 2013, amongst other issues.

I also enclose our model drug law *Whakawātea te Huarahi*. This details how we can move towards an Aotearoa free from drug harm by treating drug use as a health issue rather than a criminal one.

I look forward to working with you to tackle this important work over the next three years.

Please do not hesitate to be in touch if you would like to discuss any of the issues raised in our briefing s9(2)(a)

Ngā mihi nui,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Ross Bell".

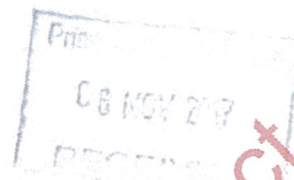
Ross Bell  
Executive Director

Released Under the Official Information Act 1982



2 November 2017

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern  
Prime Minister  
Parliament Buildings  
Wellington 6011



Tēnā koe Prime Minister

***Matters of Substance* latest issue**

Congratulations on the recent election and on your new role as part of government. We look forward to working closely with you to help solve some of the pressing drug issues facing New Zealand.

Please find enclosed the most recent issue of our magazine, *Matters of Substance*, which contains articles, interviews and personal stories about a range of topics relating to alcohol and other drugs. The latest issue focuses on the tragic synthetic cannabinoid-related deaths this year, and sets out options for an early warning system to prevent future drug deaths.

As you will know, the Drug Foundation works to prevent and reduce harm from drug use in New Zealand. One of our key roles is to develop policy on how we can build a healthy society with the least possible harm from drug use, and to share what we know with those who are in a position to make positive changes.

We will soon be sending you our Briefing to the Incoming Parliament. This sets out our solutions for major drug-related issues facing New Zealand today; we hope you will find it useful.

Please be in touch at any time - we would love to talk to you about any of the issues raised here or in the magazine s9(2)(a)

Ngā mihi nui,

Ross Bell  
Executive Director

Released Under the Official Information Act 1982