

23 September 2022

9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe 9(2)(a)

I refer to your request received on 29 August 2022, which has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), for the following information:

1. *Any correspondence between former Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage [Hon] Chris Finlayson and Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. (2010 inclusive), its subsidiaries, New Line Cinemas; and*
2. *Any correspondence between former Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage [Hon] Chris Finlayson and Peter Jackson (New Zealand film director).*

For context, guidance from the Ombudsman notes that once an individual ceases to be a Minister, they are no longer subject to the OIA in their own right. Information held by former Ministers will only be subject to the OIA if it is held by a current Minister or agency subject to the OIA. In this instance, Manatū Taonga Ministry for Culture and Heritage has identified one piece of correspondence relevant to your request. This document is released to you in full.

I note that the article linked in your original email references former Minister Hon Chris Finlayson in his former capacity as Attorney-General. As such, you may wish to contact Te Tari Ture o te Karauna Crown Law, who can be contacted at oa@crownlaw.govt.nz.

You may also wish to contact Te Tari Taiwhenua Department of Internal Affairs regarding any further information potentially held by Te Rua Mahara o te Kāwanatanga Archives New Zealand. The reason for this is that the Chief Ombudsman has previously noted that emails of former Ministers held by Parliamentary Services pursuant to contract with DIA are deemed to be official information held by DIA.

If you require any clarification on our response, please feel free to contact oa@mch.govt.nz. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this response. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi

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Emily Fabling
Pou Mataaho o Te Aka
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