

Reference: 20220350

15 September 2022



Dear 

Thank you for your Official Information Act request, received on 22 August 2022. You requested:

any advice, meeting notes, briefings, and all other documents in relation to the decision to take complete ownership of KiwiBank and KGH.

After discussions with Treasury officials, on 7 September 2022 you revised your request to:

Please provide all reports and formal communications within the scope of my request not expected to be proactively released.

Please limit the release of any informal communication and emails to those that contain criticism of the decision or raise concerns regarding the purchase.

The Treasury is in the process of preparing reports and other documents associated with the Government's recent decisions regarding Kiwi Group Holdings Limited. This release will include in excess of sixty reports and is scheduled to be publicly available in early November 2022.

These documents will be available on the Treasury Website:

<https://www.treasury.govt.nz/publications/other-official-information/information-releases>

We will inform you of the release and provide a specific link once the documents have been published.

With regards to the first part of your revised request, the documents included in the proactive release cover all reports and formal communications regarding the Government's decisions regarding the related to the ownership and governance of Kiwi Group Holdings, including Kiwibank.

As such, I am refusing this part of your request under section 18(d) of the Official Information Act:

- that the information requested is or will soon be publicly available:

With regards to the second part of your request, the Treasury team preparing advice on this matter was small and all staff who would have had contact with the Minister and his office have reviewed phone records, emails and recollections. They have confirmed that they have made no communications that fall within the scope of your revised request.

The Project Korimako team (which prepared the advice) worked with tight security, and strict document security due to the commercial nature of the project. Treasury staff outside this team had limited, if any, knowledge regarding the advice being provided, and so I am confident that no other staff would have criticised or raised concerns regarding the decisions.

As such, I am refusing this part of your request under section 18(e) of the Official Information Act:

- that the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

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

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) and enclosed documents may be published on the Treasury website.

This reply addresses the information you requested. You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision.

Yours sincerely

Shelley Hollingsworth
Manager, Commercial and Institutional Performance