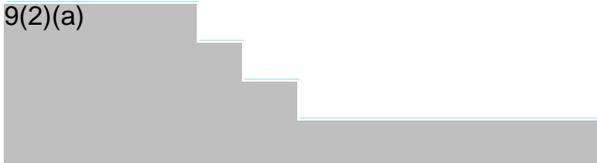


21 February 2024

9(2)(a)



### **Official Information Act request**

Thank you for your email of Thursday 25 January 2024, in which you requested the following information:

- *Copies of all internal correspondence including but not limited to emails, letters, emails, text messages, Whatsapp, Signal, Microsoft Teams sent or received by any Social Wellbeing Agency staff or representatives regarding a request of savings from the Minister of Finance for the 2024/25 financial year, since 20 November 2023.*
- *Copies of all external correspondence including but not limited to emails, letters, emails, text messages, Whatsapp, Signal, Microsoft Teams sent or received between Social Wellbeing Agency staff or representatives and the Minister of Finance or her office requesting savings for the 2024/25 financial year, since 20 November 2023.*
- *Copies of all correspondence including but not limited to emails, letters, emails, text messages, Whatsapp, Signal, Microsoft Teams sent or received by any Social Wellbeing Agency staff or representatives regarding a request of savings from the Minister of Finance for the 2024/25 financial year, since 20 November 2023.*
- *Copies of all advice, briefings, memos or any other documents provided Social Wellbeing Agency staff or representatives regarding a request of savings from the Minister of Finance for the 2024/25 financial year, since 20 November 2023.*
- *Any further reports the Minister or her Office have received from Social Wellbeing Agency staff or representatives regarding a request of savings from the Minister of Finance for the 2024/25 financial year, since 20 November 2023.*

The Social Wellbeing Agency is committed to supporting the Government's priorities.

We are currently planning for the financial year 2024/25, to be considered by the Minister for Social Investment. Ministers and Cabinet will make decisions on final savings as part of Budget 2024, and I can advise that no final decisions have been made.

We respect the budget process and confidentiality needed for budget sensitive information. I am therefore refusing your request in accordance with section 9(2)(f)(iv) to maintain the constitutional convention for the time being which protects the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have a right to seek an investigation or review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by calling 0800 802 602.

As part of our commitment to transparency, we proactively release our responses to information requests where possible. This response, with your personal details removed, will be published on our website shortly.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Kirsty Anderson

**Manager Communications and Engagement**