

From: Natalie.Muir@fma.govt.nz
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FMA response to your OIA CRM:006901330
Date: Wednesday, 9 November 2022 8:45:42 am

Kia ora [REDACTED]

I refer to your OIA request below.

Having made enquiries with relevant staff at the FMA, I can confirm that there have been no communications (written or verbal) between 1 September 2022 and 19 October 2022 regarding our approach to how media queries are dealt with:

- between the FMA Chief Executive/or other executive managers and FMA communications/media staff; nor
- to FMA from the office of the FMA's Minister (the Hon Dr David Clark, Minister of Commerce and Consumer Affairs).

This being the case that we do not hold any communications or information to provide, I decline your request on the basis of s 18(e) of the OIA, namely that the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist. (Given I'm responding with an OIA refusal to provide documents I also note that you have the right to complain to the Ombudsman regarding our assessment of your OIA request, in accordance with s 28 of that Act. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or phone 0800 802 602.)

I can however explain more generally that the FMA is committed to a 'no surprises' policy in relation to its engagement with its Minister. Under the no surprises policy, the FMA informs the Minister of any material or significant events, transactions, and other issues that could be considered contentious or attract wide public interest, including advising the Minister of issues that it envisages may be discussed in the public arena or that may require a ministerial response. There has been no change to this policy during the specific period in relation to which you enquire, nor preceding it in recent years including since the current Government was sworn in. More generally, there has also been no recent changes to how the FMA deals with media queries during the specific period in relation to which you enquire, nor preceding it in recent years.

Please do let me know if you have any further questions.

Ngā mihi
Natalie Muir

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 21 October 2022 12:18 pm
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Comms staff and OIAs

Hi there

Can you please forward any communications between 1 September 2022 and 19 October 2022:

- 1) Between your chief executive or other executive manager and your communications/media staff regarding how media queries are dealt with.
- 2) From the office of your relevant minister regarding how media queries are dealt with.

Please note this is a request for the entirety of any communications captured, not just any parts

deemed "in scope".

If there have been oral discussions that have not been documented, please briefly summarise what was said, and by whom.

Thanks very much

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]