

Thank you for your email of 19 March 2018, to the Ministry of Education requesting the following information

A copy of all advice you have sent or received regarding:

- *the NCEA review*

I would expect this to include all briefings and aides memoire you or the Ministry of Education have sent to or received from other government departments. I would also expect this to include all information on these matters you or the Ministry have sent or received from ministers and/or their offices including the Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister and their offices.

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

The NCEA review is part of the Education Work Programme announced by the Government and further information is available on the Ministry's website at the following link:

<http://www.education.govt.nz/ministry-of-education/consultations-and-reviews/ncea-review/>

The following documents on the NCEA review, are publically available on the Ministry's website:

- Education Report: Review of NCEA

<http://www.education.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Ministry/Information-releases/R-Education-Report-Review-of-NCEA.pdf>

- Education Report: Review of NCEA - Preparing Terms of Reference

<http://www.education.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Ministry/Information-releases/R-Education-Report-Review-of-NCEA-Preparing-Terms-of-Reference.pdf>

- NCEA - Bringing Terms of Reference to cabinet

<http://www.education.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Ministry/Information-releases/Aide-Memoire-NCEA-Review-Terms-of-Ref-to-Cabinet-.pdf>

- Reviewing NCEA

<http://www.education.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Ministry/Information-releases/Reviewing-NCEA.PDF>

We also have identified 21 documents within the scope of your request. As detailed in the attached **Appendix one**, we are releasing 10 documents to you in part with information withheld under the following sections of the Act:

- 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons
- 9(2)(f)(iv) to maintain the constitutional conventions protecting the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers and Officials.

Documents 1 to 3A are publicly available. I am therefore refusing to release these documents to you under section 18(d) of the Act.


Documents 10 have been released to you in full.

Documents 12 to 13 refer to matters which are still under active consideration. I am therefore refusing to release these documents to you in full, also under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act.

Pursuant to section 9(1) of the Act we have considered whether the need to withhold information is outweighed by other considerations which render release desirable in the public interest. We consider that the need to withhold this information is not outweighed by the public interest considerations favouring the release of this information.

If you are unsatisfied with my response, you have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review it. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely



Ellen MacGregor-Reid
Deputy Secretary
Early Learning and Student Achievement