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15 February 2023

[REDACTED]  
The Spinoff  
[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

### Official Information request and response

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act ("OIA") dated 7 December 2022. On 11 January 2023, NZ On Air extended the timeframe for our response by a further 15 working days, with the updated response date being 15 February 2023.

You have requested:

- *emails and text messages between NZ On Air staff members regarding the funding of SIS the comedy show, produced by Culture Factory and created by Hanelle Harris*
- *emails between NZ On Air and Culture Factory, including Hanelle Harris, Destiny Momoisea, Maiya Thompson and Gaby Solomona regarding its funding application for season one of SIS.*
- *the funding proposal submitted by Culture Factory for SIS that was ultimately accepted*
- *emails between NZ On Air and Sky TV, regarding the decision to fund season one of SIS*
- *emails between NZ On Air, Sky TV and Culture Factory (including Harris, Momoisea and Thompson) regarding the roll out and release of SIS and any subsequent delays in release*
- *emails between NZ On Air, Sky TV and Culture Factory (including Harris, Momoisea and Thompson) regarding production budgets throughout the project (2021-2022) and any requests for further funding*
- *emails between NZ On Air, Sky TV and Culture Factory (including Harris, Momoisea and Thompson) regarding the leaking of SIS by Culture factory on October 17 and subsequent response from NZ On Air*
- *emails between NZ On Air and Culture Factory (including Harris, Momoisea and Thompson) regarding payment for the project*
- *emails between NZ On Air staff and between NZ On Air and Culture Factory regarding the funding contract between NZ On Air and Culture Factory.*

I have attached the requested information that we are able to release:

1. Compiled correspondence between NZ On Air and the production team for *SIS* that falls within the scope of your request;
2. Compiled correspondence between NZ On Air and Sky TV concerning *SIS* that falls within the scope of your request;
3. A copy of the funding proposal for *SIS*.

As part of the documentation released under Paragraph 1, we have also included the budget assessment of the *SIS* application that NZ On Air externally commissioned (pages 4 through 8), as well as the responses of the Producer and Platform to that assessment (pages 10 through 23). We have declined to release the name of the assessor section 9(2)(a) of the OIA to protect the privacy of natural persons.

Additionally, we have chosen to release the original funding recommendation paper for *SIS* that was submitted to the NZ On Air Board in September of 2020 (pages 24 & 25).

Throughout the released documentation, we have declined to release certain information under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA to protect the privacy of natural persons and section 9(2)(b) of the OIA to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.

For your information, funding provided by NZ On Air for all successful projects is [searchable](#) on our website. You can also [sign up](#) to receive our regular industry newsletter via our website.

You have the right to refer this response to the Ombudsman if you are dissatisfied with it. More information on how to do this is [here](#). NZ On Air proactively releases information in accordance with the Government's commitment to the Open Government Partnership National Action Plan. This includes publishing responses to requests for information under the OIA. Please note that this response (with your name removed) will be published on the NZ On Air website shortly and will remain on our website for 12 months.

Thank you for your interest in our work.

Yours sincerely



Sharon Kerry  
**HEAD OF CORPORATE SERVICES**