



Level 2
119 Ghuznee Street
P O Box 9744
Wellington 6141
New Zealand

info@nzonair.govt.nz
www.nzonair.govt.nz

Tel: 04 382 9524
Fax: 04 382 9546

13 August 2018

Reporter
Stuff
Auckland 1021

by email

Dear

Official Information request and response

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act ("OIA") dated 6 August 2018. You have requested:

1. A copy of all proposals submitted to NZ On Air which were successful in the latest funding round.
2. All correspondence between NZ On Air and Broadcasting Minister Clare Curran associated with the successful proposals.
3. The level of funding requested by each of the applicants, successful or not.
4. All correspondence between the Minister Clare Curran and NZ On Air regarding the unsuccessful proposals.
5. All correspondence between NZ On Air and the unsuccessful applicants.

Our response is as follows.

1. Successful proposals.

- There were over 105 applications to the main July funding round, 166 to the July/ August New Music Tracks round, and 11 for New Music Projects.
- We supported 24 Factual, 8 Scripted, 6 regional media, and 35 music applications. This information, and the amounts allocated, is in our July newsletter here <https://www.nzonair.govt.nz/news/july-2018-newsletter/>
- We decline to release these proposals under s9(2)(b) of the OIA - trade secrets/commercial position - and s18(f) – substantial collusion and research (we would need to consult with every applicant before we made a decision).

However, we can advise that:

- All successful decisions are searchable on our website using the search tool, and are also collated and published in our July Newsletter.
- As noted on our website [here](#) NZ On Air treats scripts, proposals and other production material submitted with funding applications as confidential. Information that is confidential or personal is usually withheld under the OIA. Even if such information is released to a requestor it will not be included on this page, as it concerns the rights and interests of third parties.
 - This is especially true of projects that are not yet released as, at this stage, they are a trade secret involving copyright material and intellectual property.
 - Once a project has been broadcast/released we will be happy to reconsider your request and may be in a position to release some of the information we have

withheld – most projects will be released within two years. Please contact us again at that time with a new request.

- For your information we list most new releases on the Watch & Listen page on our website and promote new music on social media.

If you are seeking information about a particular project, please contact me again with the detail you are seeking and I will see if I can assist.

2. Ministerial correspondence

There is no correspondence between Minister Curran and NZ On Air regarding the successful proposals.

3. Funding levels

As noted above, the level of funding allocated to successful applicants is searchable on our website and listed in our July newsletter. We do not release details of unsuccessful applications under s9(2)(b) of the OIA as they involve confidential intellectual property. However -

- The total amount of funding sought in July for screen projects was over \$59m
- In the majority of cases successful applicants are awarded the amount they seek, or close to it: budget assessment both by ourselves and supporting platforms are rigorous.

4. Ministerial correspondence

There is no correspondence between Minister Curran and NZ On Air regarding the unsuccessful proposals.

5. Unsuccessful proposals

We do not release details of unsuccessful applications as per our point above. However I have appended the template letter that framed most of the letters advising the application was unsuccessful. If you are seeking information about a particular project, please contact me again with the detail you are seeking.

For your information, all funding provided by NZ On Air for all successful projects is searchable on our website. You can also sign up to receive our bi-monthly industry newsletter via our website.

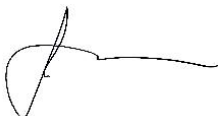
You have the right to refer this response to the Ombudsman if you are dissatisfied with it. More information on how to do this is here:

<http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz/make-a-complaint/complaining-about-access-to-official-information-551307291224432>

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



Jane Wrightson
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Connecting and reflecting our nation

Annex A: Template funding letter advising unsuccessful applicants

[address]

Dear *[applicant name]*

NZ ON AIR - FUNDING DECISIONS

Thank you for your application to the July round, the first in our new financial year. We received 105 Factual and Scripted funding applications seeking over \$59m, which is 74% of the total available funding for the whole year.

All applications were initially assessed by a minimum of two NZ On Air staff. A series of assessment meetings were then held, with the entire NZ On Air Funding team in attendance, where each application was discussed and assessed against our funding criteria.

Unfortunately we are unable to offer funding for *[project title]*

Given the demands on our available funding and the strength of other production applications in this round we could not give your project sufficient priority for support at this time.

If you would like to discuss your application or receive further feedback please ring and ask to speak with one of the funding advisors.

I know this will be disappointing for you and I'm sorry I could not be the bearer of better news.

Yours sincerely

Jane Wrightson
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

