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18 August 2020

[REDACTED]  
*Rōia Matua*  
Office of Human Rights Proceedings  
By email: [REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

### Official Information request and response

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act ("OIA") dated 9 July 2020

You have requested:

*On 1 July 2020 Ministers Carmel Sepuloni, Phil Twyford and Kris Faafoi announced a screen sector recovery package.*

*The package includes new funding of \$25 million over four years to ensure "diverse audiences ... that are otherwise not well served by broadcast media can get the information they need". I refer to this part of the package as the "new funding".*

*I request a copy of all information held by NZ on Air about the new funding or which led to the new funding, including:*

- *correspondence or communications with Ministers, ministries, departments or any other part of the Crown or public sector;*
- *correspondence or communications with any broadcaster, organisation or other person;*
- *copies of any documents, including memoranda, reports, minutes of meetings, reports, decisions, briefings, bids for funding, or policy papers;*
- *any other information or documents about the new funding or which led to the new funding.*

*Where any information was conveyed orally, I ask that it is put in writing and provided.*

We further clarified your request, and you responded to us on 16 July that the focus will be on *Disability Media*. We understand that this means the additional funding we are providing towards the Able Platform.

## Connecting and reflecting our nation

For context, our involvement during this process is as below:

- Relatively early in the budget bid process (August 2019) we provided MCH an overview of our proposed priorities for Budget 2020. This was folded into a budget bid formulated by MCH that was then submitted by MCH to Treasury.
- Applications were received from Platforms in March 2020 for the 2020/21 financial year, to be decided at the May 2020 Board meeting. At this point in time the budget bid had not been confirmed and the Able application was for continual Base-line funding.
- Board papers and supporting documentation were supplied to our Board two weeks prior to the May meeting date. At the point of papers being distributed staff were not aware the budget bid had been successful.
- We were advised confidentially of the progress of the budget bid on 4 May 2020.
- Our May 6 Board meeting confirmed the base-line funding for the platforms. The Board also approved a high-level approach, if this Budget 2020 bid was to be successful.
- We confirmed base-line funding for platforms, and requested an application for resourcing requirements, which was approved at an out of time Board meeting in June.
- The new funding was then made public through the Ministerial announcements.
- Final allocations were confirmed at the July board meeting, held after your OIA was received. Full announcements of the results of funding can be searched on our website.

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

- Budget Bid Summary August 2019 pg.1-2
- Email from MCH confirming additional funding pg.3
- Board paper May 2020 pg. 4 – 9
- ABLE funding application for May 2020 Board meeting pg 10 - 24
- Extract of May 2020 board minutes approving funding pg 25
- Letter and emails to Able confirming funding for 20/21 Financial period pg 26-29
- Email communications between NZ On Air & MCH regarding press release pg 30 - 32
- Board paper June 2020 pg. 33 - 37
- ABLE funding application for June 2020 Board meeting pg 38 - 49
- Extract of June 2020 board minutes approving funding pg 50
- Post Budget letter of expectation from the minister - [available on our website](#)
- Letter and emails to Able confirming funding for 20/21 Financial period pg 51-52
- Email communications regarding press release and announcement details pg 53-55
- The final press release – [available on-line](#)

The following redactions in these documents have been made:

- Out of Scope information pertaining to platforms that do not provide services for disability media
- Personal information - Section 9(2)(a)
- Budget figures and operational information that can be classified as Trade secret - Section 9(2)(b)
- The confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials - Section 9(2)(f)(iv)
- The free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to Ministers of the Crown or members of an organisation or officers and employees of any department or organisation in the course of their duty – Section 9(2)(g)(i)

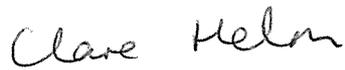
Elements of the budget bid process will be held by MCH and the Minister's office. We do not hold this information and are unable to release them.

**Connecting and reflecting our nation**

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clare Helm". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Clare Helm

**Head of Corporate Services**