



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

1 March 2021

NZ Taxpayers' Union
Via twitter: @TaxpayersUnion

Tēnā koe

Official Information request and response

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act ("OIA") dated 14 February 2021.

You have requested:

What safeguards and regular reviewing do you have in place to ensure political diversity in your news and content grant-making to ensure it reflects the values of the taxpayers who fund you?

Below is an outline of the current principles that guide our funding process. This is already available publicly on our website. If you are seeking comment or opinion on our funding processes these requests can go through our communications team which can be contacted on communications@nzonair.govt.nz.

Our core functions are set out in the [1989 Broadcasting Act](#). In simple terms, we invest in quality, diverse and discoverable public media content, in particular to serve the audiences as set out in s36.

Our four-yearly [Statement of Intent](#) (SOI) and annual [Statement of Performance Expectations](#) (SPE) explain our high level objectives and activities. Our strategy for investing is set out in the [NZ Media Fund](#) and on our website on the [About- Our funding strategy section](#).

The types of factual content we fund includes; documentary and information, specialist current affairs, factual content for Children and Youth, Māori factual content, regional media, and spoken content (audio). This includes the news content, which you are inquiring about.

Our Factual investments are guided by the [Factual Roadmap](#) – which references the Broadcasting Act 1989 and our guiding principles for the NZ Media Fund. This is reviewed on a three-yearly cycle. Prior to each round opening, we publish our round criteria and relevant information [on our website](#), and in our short newsletters. All news and content applications that have applied through our system and meet our eligibility criteria for the round, are assessed against the criteria outlined in the documents above. Our [assessment process](#) is detailed on our website.

Our funding is contestable, and applicants must reapply for each new season of programming. As such applications are reviewed for quality and deliverables, every time they apply. This also means there is a revolving slate of content in which to balance diverse points of views.

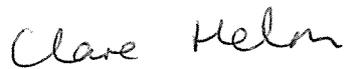
Connecting and reflecting our nation

For your information, funding provided by NZ On Air for all successful projects is searchable on our website and in our Annual Reports, published on our website. You can also sign up via our website to receive our industry newsletters.

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