



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

11 February 2022

By email: [REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

### Official Information request and response

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act ("OIA") dated 8 December 2021.

You have requested:

*information about the decision to grant Stuff funding from Round 2 of the Public Interest Journalism Fund for its Marlborough news-gathering...(including) the Stuff application to NZ On Air for funding please, and any documentation that was part of the consideration of this grant....(and) the NZME application for its non-incremental grant.*

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

- Internal funding Board paper regarding these projects dated 30 November – 1 December 2021

Redactions in this document have been made under the following provisions:

- section 9(2)(a) of the OIA to protect the privacy of natural persons
- section 9(2)(b) of the OIA to protect information where the making available of the information—
  - (i) would disclose a trade secret; or
  - (ii) would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.
- Section 9(2)(i) protects information where it is necessary to enable the agency that holds it to carry out commercial activities without prejudice or disadvantage.

Applicants for non-incremental roles were required to supply a large amount of commercially sensitive information to allow for a thorough assessment of their applications. The applications were put through a rigorous and additional process to analyse this information. The publication of this information would prejudice the commercial position of the applicants and so has been withheld, under Section 9(2)(b)(ii).

These redactions also protect the ability of the Public Interest Journalism Fund to carry out its function in supporting a non-incremental role assessment process where disclosure of commercially sensitive information would provide a major detriment to applicants, under (Section 9(2)(i)).

## Connecting and reflecting our nation

As these projects are still in production, and not due to be completed and delivered until the end of December 2023, under section 9(2)(b) of the OIA we are withholding the information pertaining to the proposal and planning documents provided for this project, as they are still considered commercially sensitive information. Once this project has been completed, we will be happy to reconsider your request and may be in a position to release some of the information we have redacted or withheld. Please contact us again at that time with a new request.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sharon Kerry', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sharon Kerry  
**HEAD OF CORPORATE SERVICES**