

10 January 2024

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OIA 28880

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I refer to your email of 5 November in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

- 1. How much money has the Ministry allocated to the "leverage" the America's Cup competition in Barcelona?*
- 2. How much Embassy time is being allocated to the America's Cup competition in Barcelona?*
- 3. Has the Ministry established a working group on the America's Cup in Barcelona or is the Ministry part of any interdepartmental working group or task force on the America's Cup?*
- 4. If there is any internal working group or task force who serves on this, what are their positions and what is the terms of reference for the group or task force?*
- 5. What direction have you received from Ministers on the America's Cup competition In Barcelona?*
- 6. Is the Ministry planning any leverage programme for America's Cup races in Saudi Arabia? How much money is allocated to any programme of leverage? How much staff time is allocated to any such programme? Has Ministerial direction been received on support for or developing a leverage programme for the America's Cup regatta in Saudi Arabia?*
- 7. Have the resources of any other New Zealand diplomatic missions (other than the Embassies in Madrid or Riyadh) been used to support leverage programmes for America's Cup in 2023 or is resource use planned between now and the end of 2024?*

On 1 December 2023, the timeframes for responding to your request were extended by an additional 25 working due to the consultations necessary to make a decision on your request (section 15A(1)(b) of the OIA refers). The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (the Ministry) consulted with Sport New Zealand, New Zealand Trade and Enterprise and the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (specifically, their Major Events team) to see if they had information in scope of your request, and if so, whether a transfer would have been necessary. However, no transfer of your request was required.

Additionally, the Ministry has reviewed its records, and we have not identified any information that is within scope of your request. Accordingly, your request is refused in full under section 18(e) of the OIA, as the information requested does not exist.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Therefore, our response to your request (with your personal information removed) may be published on the Ministry website: www.mfat.govt.nz/en/about-us/contact-us/official-information-act-responses/

If you have any questions about this decision, you can contact us by email at: DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision by contacting www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SC', written in a cursive style.

Sarah Corbett
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade