

4 August 2025

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 3 July 2025, requesting information about the Youth Parliament 2025 speeches.

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Please find my decision on your request set out below.

- 1. All email communications from MYD's Youth Parliament Project Team sent to Youth MPs between 1 April and 2 July 2025 whose subject lines include "Changes required" (or similar wording) that advised removals or edits regarding:
 - a. Criticism of ministers or government,
 - b. Politically sensitive themes (e.g. pay equity, climate, Treaty Principles Bill, voting rights, freedom of expression),
 - c. Concerns about defamation, political neutrality, or non-partisanship.
- 2. Internal guidance, memos, or policy documents that informed or justified these communications.
- 3. Any correspondence relating to the decision not to livestream Youth Parliament debates or to restrict public access to recordings.

Following the Youth Parliament 2025 in-person event, the Ministry of Youth Development (MYD) – Te Manatū Whakahiato Taiohi is preparing a proactive release of all documents relating to this topic. This proactive release will include reports provided to the Minister for Youth on the subject of Youth Parliament 2025, Youth MP information packs and guidance documents, application forms, feedback provided to Youth MPs on their General Debate speeches, code of conduct and training, and information about the live streaming.

As such, your request is refused under section 18(d) of the Act, as this information is soon to be made publicly available.

Your request for all email communication would require substantial manual collation to locate and prepare all documents within scope of your request. As such, I refuse your request under section 18(f) of the Act. The greater public interest is in the effective and efficient administration of the public service.

I have considered whether the Ministry would be able to respond to your request given extra time, or the ability to charge for the information requested. I have concluded that, in either case, the Ministry's ability to undertake its work would still be prejudiced.

I will be publishing this decision letter, with your personal details deleted, on the Ministry's website in due course.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact OIA Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with my decision on your request, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui

Anna Graham

General Manager

Ministerial and Executive Services