



20 November 2025

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 24 September 2025, requesting information about the Ministry of Youth Development's (MYD's) Executive Committee and Andrew Fale Lesā.

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

- *I am writing in relation to information obtained through an Official Information Act request to the Real Estate Authority (Our Ref: C64569), regarding Mr. Fale Andrew Lesā.*
- *According to his application, Mr. Lesā claims that he served on the "Ministry of Social Development — MYD Executive Committee."*
- *"Ministry of Social Development — MYD Executive Committee. APRIL 2007 - JANUARY 2014 This included reviewing policy, distributing grants from the MYD fund, and supporting youth organisations across the country."*
- *I would appreciate it if you could please confirm whether this statement is accurate.*
- *Additionally, I would like to request the following information:*
- *The Terms of Reference for the MYD Executive Committee.*
- *Details of the public call for expressions of interest for this role — how was the recruitment process conducted?*
- *A copy of Mr. Lesā's appointment letter.*
- *An outline of the recruitment process for committee members, including:*
- *What documentation or qualifications applicants were required to submit.*
- *The assessment or selection criteria used.*

MYD does not have an Executive Committee, and did not have one in the period 2007 to 2014. Therefore, your request is refused in full under section 18(e) of the Act as the information does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

MYD's records within the period of your request indicate Mr Lesā was a member of the Youth Advisory Group – Northern Region. The group's role included providing a youth perspective to both governmental and non-governmental organisations on topics of interest.

MYD also sought young people's involvement in regional Youth Funding Panels, a role which included assessing applications to MYD's Youth Fund and making funding recommendations to MYD. The Ministry searched available records and could not verify whether Mr Lesā was a member of a Youth Funding Panel for the Northern Region.

If you would like further information regarding Mr Lesā's involvement with MYD, you are welcome to make another request.

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

pp.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anna Graham', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Anna Graham
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services