

8 December 2025



s9(2)(a)



Our ref: OIA 2526-0458

Tēnā koe s9(2)(a)



Response to your Official Information Act request

I refer to your email of 28 October 2025 to the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*"Under the Official Information Act 1982 I would like to request the following information:
Has the Department of Internal Affairs been involved in conversations about the possibility of setting up an 'antisemitism commissioner' or similar independent role like the one given to Jillian Segal in Australia?
If so, please supply all email correspondence, meeting minutes and briefing documents held within the department on this matter."*

As you are aware, on 9 November 2025, DIA transferred your request in full to the Ministry for Ethnic Communities (the Ministry), the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) and the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) under section 14 of the Act, as it is believed to be more closely connected with the functions of these agencies.

In response to your request, the Ministry is aware of one meeting between the Prime Minister, the Minister for Ethnic Communities and Jewish Community leaders in which the topic of the Australian Special Envoy was raised by community leaders. I understand the information held in relation to this meeting is being included within DPMC's response to you, and therefore has not been included in the Ministry's response. The Ministry has not identified any other information held within scope of your request.

You may be interested to know, on 22 July 2025, leaders from some of New Zealand's Muslim and Jewish organisations signed the Harmony Accord. The Harmony Accord is a community led response to the rise of antisemitism and Islamophobia in New Zealand. The Ministry played a facilitative role in its development, acting as a trusted broker between Muslim and Jewish community organisations. You can find the signed agreement here: [NZ Harmony Accord](#).

The Accord will be led and implemented by a Leadership Council nominated by signatories. This Leadership Council will play a central role in the Accord's future direction and governance in New Zealand.

Under section 28 of the OIA, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman of my response relating to this request. The relevant details can be found on their website at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Please note, due to the public interest in our work, the Ministry may publish responses to requests for official information on our website, shortly after the response has been sent. If you have any queries about this, please feel free to contact our Ministerial Services team:

Ministerial@ethniccommunities.govt.nz

Ngā mihi



Edward Firth
Director of Ministerial Services