

14 April 2025

By email to: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST 2025/24

I refer to your Official Information Act (OIA) request dated 9 April 2025, to the Ministry of Transport, relating to lobbying meetings and donations. Under section 14 of the OIA, on 14 April 2025 the following part of your request was transferred to the Electoral Commission (the Commission) for response:

3. Records of political donations or sponsorships from cruise entities to NZ political parties

The Electoral Commission publishes donors, which registered party or candidate they donated to, and how much they donated.

We do not collect information about the business affiliations of donors. On this basis, your request is refused under section 18(e) of the Act. More information about where you can find the information that is collected by the Commission is below.

Registered parties must let the Electoral Commission know within 10 working days when they receive more than \$20,000 from a single donor between 1 January of election year and the day before election day (13 October 2023 for the previous General Election). This information can be found here: <https://elections.nz/democracy-in-nz/political-parties-in-new-zealand/donations-exceeding-20000/>

From 1 January 2011 to 31 December 2022, registered political parties had to disclose within 10 working days when they got more than \$30,000 from a single donor within a 12-month period. These returns are available here: <https://elections.nz/democracy-in-nz/political-parties-in-new-zealand/donations-exceeding-20000/donations-exceeding-30000/>

Registered political parties must file a return of the donations and loans they get each year. We make these returns available to the public here: <https://elections.nz/democracy-in-nz/political-parties-in-new-zealand/party-donations-and-loans-by-year/>

Candidates must report donations to their election campaign that are over \$1,500, as well as any candidate loans from 1 January 2023 onward. The rules for reporting candidate donations and loans can be found here: <https://elections.nz/guidance-and-rules/donations-and-loans/rules-for-candidate-donations-and-loans/>

The published candidate returns containing candidate donor information for the 2023 General Election can be found here: <https://elections.nz/democracy-in-nz/historical-events/2023-general-election/candidate-expenses-donations-and-loans/>

Please note that equivalent information for previous elections before 2023 can be located by navigating our Past Elections page, found here: <https://elections.nz/democracy-in-nz/historical-events/>

In the interests of transparency, we release responses to Official Information Act requests every 3 months. We will publish this response with your personal details redacted.

You have the right under section 28(3) of the Act to make a complaint to the Ombudsman if you are not satisfied with the response to your request. Information about how to do this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phoning 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Kristina Temel
Manager, Legal, Regulation and Policy