



29 May 2025

By email: [REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED],

Official Information request and response

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act ("OIA") dated 1 May 2025.

You have requested:

1. *A record of all funding, across NZOA development and production rounds as well as NZ Film Commission funding rounds, granted to Tavake Ltd for the development or production of The Panthers season two.*
2. *Emails between NZ On Air and Tavake Ltd, Tom Hern, Halaifonua Finau, Nicole Horan, Crystal Vaega regarding The Panthers season two*
3. *Emails between NZ On Air and representatives of the Polynesian Panthers or any other potential subject related to The Panthers season two and its development*

Please see our response below:

1. *The Panthers (Season 2)* was funded in 2022 as part of Te Puna Kairangi – Premium Productions for International Audiences Fund, which was a co-fund initiative between the New Zealand Film Commission (NZFC), Te Māngai Pāho and NZ On Air administered by the NZFC.

As part of this funding round, *The Panthers (Season 2)* was one of six projects NZ On Air approved \$800,000 in funding additional to the Te Puna Kairangi fund. This information is available on our website [here](#).
2. I have attached the requested information that we are able to release. We have made redactions in these documents under section 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons:
 - a. Email from Tavake Limited dated 18 October 2022.
 - b. The letter from Tavake Limited attached to the above email.
3. NZ On Air does not hold any email correspondence with representatives of the Polynesian Panthers or any other potential subjects related to the project and its development. We decline this part of your request under section 18(e) on grounds that the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

For your information, funding provided by NZ On Air for all successful projects is [searchable](#) on our website. You can also [sign up](#) to receive our regular industry newsletter via our website.

You have the right to refer this response to the Ombudsman if you are dissatisfied with it. More information on how to do this is [here](#). NZ On Air proactively releases information in accordance with the Government's commitment to the Open Government Partnership National Action Plan. This includes publishing responses to requests for information under the OIA. Please note that this response (with your name removed) will be published on the NZ On Air website shortly and will remain on our website for 12 months.

Thank you for your interest in our work.

Ngā manaakitanga,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Rasch', with a stylized, flowing script.

Raewyn Rasch

HEAD OF OPERATIONS, PARTNERSHIPS AND CULTURE

KAIHAUTŪ NGĀ WHAKAHAERE, NGĀ RANGIPŪ MAHITAHĪ ME TE AHUREA