



Level 2
119 Ghuznee Street
P O Box 9744
Wellington 6141
New Zealand

info@nzonair.govt.nz
www.nzonair.govt.nz

Tel: 04 382 9524
Fax: 04 382 9546

29 July 2026



Tēnā koe [REDACTED],

Official Information request and response

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act ("OIA") dated 11 July 2026.

You have requested:

1. *information on the decision process, criteria,*
2. *...and outcomes including panel considerations/comments for the April 2026 NewTracks compilation, for both successful and unsuccessful applicants*

In response to your request:

1. *information on the decision process, criteria,*

This information is publicly available on our website <https://newtracks.co.nz/>.

Additionally, we can provide the following information. NewTracks is not a funding decision process; it is a promotional selection process. Success depends not only on the quality of the song but also on demonstrating that the release is strategically planned and has a realistic chance of attracting media attention and audience engagement.

We receive around 160-180 applications each month for 50-55 spots on NewTracks. If the single is funded by NZ On Air, it receives automatic inclusion onto NewTracks (which can take up to 20-25 of the available spots). Songs are independently assessed and voted on, and at the hui every song is discussed until all 50-55 places are filled. Given the large number of applicants each month, it is difficult for our small team to provide feedback to everyone; however, they will respond to applicants who email a request.

2. *...and outcomes including panel considerations/comments for the April 2026 NewTracks compilation, for both successful and unsuccessful applicants*

The full list of successful applicants in the April 2026 NewTracks is available [online](#).

We decline to release panel considerations/comments under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA to protect the privacy of natural persons and section 9(2)(b) of the OIA to protect information where the making available of the information—

- (i) would disclose a trade secret; or
- (ii) would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.

Applicants have a right to privacy and confidentiality regarding their applications and their artistic endeavours. For this reason, we do not release information on declined applications.

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.

Ngā manaakitanga,



Raewyn Rasch

HEAD OF OPERATIONS, PARTNERSHIPS AND CULTURE

KAIHAUTŪ NGĀ WHAKAHAERE, NGĀ RANGIPŪ MAHITAHĪ ME TE AHUREA