



14 July 2022

[REDACTED]  
Parliament House,  
Parliament Buildings,  
Wellington 6011

By email: [REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

### Official Information request and response

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act ("OIA") dated 17 May 2022.

You have requested:

1. All correspondence, briefings and information held relating to *Loading Docs: OK Chlöe*
2. All correspondence, briefings and information held relating to *Being Chlöe*

On Friday 20 May NZ On Air responded to your initial query with an email outlining the released statement regarding the funding [here](#) and a release of documents under the Official Information Act [here](#). This covers most correspondence and information relating to *Loading Docs: OK Chlöe* and *Being Chlöe*.

Further to this release, please find attached all correspondence NZ On Air has internally and externally up until the date of your request.

In these correspondence documents we have redacted information under the following reasons:

- Applying section 9(2)(a) of the OIA to protect the privacy of natural persons
- Any commercially sensitive information has been redacted under 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.

In relation to briefings, to date of your request there were no briefings provided to any Ministers. We decline this part of your request based on section 18(e) of the OIA, that the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist.

Once this project has been broadcast/released we will be happy to reconsider your request and may be in a position to release some of the information we have redacted or withheld. Please contact us again at that time with a new request.

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.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke, representing Sharon Kerry.

Sharon Kerry  
**HEAD OF CORPORATE SERVICES**

**From:** Heperi Mita  
**To:** 9(2)(a)  
**Cc:** 9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** RE: Being Chloe - Documentary  
**Date:** Wednesday, 3 November 2021 1:32:47 pm

---

Kia ora, I am standing by.

Heperi Mita

Funding Advisor / Kaitohutohu Putea

NZ On Air | Irirangi Te Motu

Pronouns: He/Him

Mob: 9(2)

DDI: 9(2)

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**From:** Heperi Mita  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 3 November 2021 12:43 pm  
**To:** 9(2)(a) <@nzfilm.co.nz>  
**Cc:** 9(2)(a) <@nzfilm.co.nz>  
**Subject:** RE: Being Chloe - Documentary

Perfect – what is the best way to get in touch?

Heperi Mita

Funding Advisor / Kaitohutohu Putea

NZ On Air | Irirangi Te Motu

Pronouns: He/Him

Mob: 9(2)

DDI: 9(2)

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**From:** 9(2)(a) <@nzfilm.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 3 November 2021 12:40 pm  
**To:** Heperi Mita <[heperi@nzonair.govt.nz](mailto:heperi@nzonair.govt.nz)>  
**Cc:** 9(2)(a) <@nzfilm.co.nz>  
**Subject:** RE: Being Chloe - Documentary

How does 1.30pm today work for you?

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**From:** Heperi Mita <[heperi@nzonair.govt.nz](mailto:heperi@nzonair.govt.nz)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 3 November 2021 12:07 p.m.  
**To:** 9(2)(a) <@nzfilm.co.nz>  
**Subject:** Being Chloe - Documentary

Kia ora 9(2)(a),

Long time no see, I hope things are all well with you.

NZ On Air has received an application for the documentary *Being Chloe* that includes the potential of NZFC support in the finance plan. I was wondering if I could borrow 10 minutes of your time to discuss this with you at some point between today and Thursday?

Please let me know if this is at all possible.

Nga mihi

Heperi Mita

Funding Advisor / Kaitohutohu Putea

NZ On Air | Irirangi Te Motu

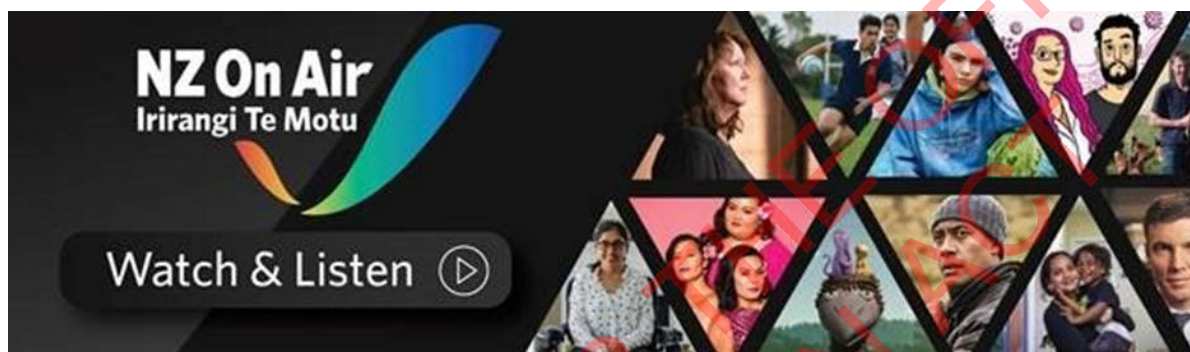
Pronouns: He/Him

Mob: 9(2)

DD: 9(2)

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**From:** s 9(2)(a)  
**To:** "Amie Mills"; Conall Aird  
**Subject:** Being Chlöe documentary  
**Date:** Monday, 11 April 2022 3:11:22 pm

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Kia ora Amie & Conall

Just to let you know where we are with the Being Chlöe documentary.

We submitted to the NZFC for the bulk of production funding today. The Film Commission report back with a decision in late June.

I'm conscious that the NZOA financial year ends in June and wanted to check that it was OK for us to delay contracting till then – assuming the FC say yes?

Cheers

s 9(2)  
(a)

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Razor Films  
s 9(2)(a)  
[REDACTED]  
s 9(2)(a) @razorfilms.co.nz

**From:** [Cameron Harland](#)  
**To:** [Allanah Kalafatelis](#); [Amie Mills](#)  
**Subject:** FW: response  
**Date:** Tuesday, 17 May 2022 3:12:31 pm  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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FYI

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**From:** s 9(2)(a) @taxpayers.org.nz>  
**Date:** Tuesday, 17 May 2022 at 3:10 PM  
**To:** Cameron Harland <cameron@nzonair.govt.nz>  
**Cc:** Cameron Harland <cameron@nzonair.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Re: response

Thank you Mr Harland. This was just brought to my attention – and I will tone down the comments we are about to issue.

Regards

s 9(2)(a)

**New Zealand Taxpayers' Union Inc.** | Main +64 4 282 0300 | Level 4, 117 Lambton Quay, Wellington 6011 | PO Box 10518, The Terrace, Wellington 6143 | [www.taxpayers.org.nz](http://www.taxpayers.org.nz)  
**Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance** | Main +64 9 281 5172 | CCHQ, Level 14, 41 Shortland Street, Auckland 1010 | PO Box 133099, Eastridge, Auckland 1146 | [www.ratepayers.nz](http://www.ratepayers.nz)

We stand for Lower Taxes, Less Waste, and More Transparency across all levels of government. If you like what we do, join the [Taxpayers' Union](#) or the [Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance](#).

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**From:** Cameron Harland <cameron@nzonair.govt.nz>  
**Date:** Tuesday, 17 May 2022 at 11:23 AM  
**To:** s 9(2)(a) @taxpayers.org.nz>  
**Cc:** Cameron Harland <cameron@nzonair.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Re: response

Kia ora s 9(2)(a),

I am writing to acknowledge your email to me late yesterday afternoon raising concerns regarding the funding of *Being Chloe* and our handling of your Official Information Act requests in relation to this.

I apologise if there has been any offence caused by the tone of my staff's email to you however it's content was all factually correct. I do not feel it necessary for either myself or the Board to check emails from staff.

We are a small agency, and are dealing with a significant increase in OIA requests. Add to that a large volume of emails and media enquiries yesterday and today in relation to this matter. This said we understand the importance of the OIA process and I apologise it has not been forthcoming in as quick a manner as desired.

I have committed more resource today to expediting the OIA responses to you and others and we hope to be able to get a response to you this week. For the sake of efficiency you will receive all the information (that we are able to release) at one time.

I note you ask specifically about development funds from the NZFC. We are separate agencies and you will need to take that enquiry up with the NZFC.

I can assure you we are not obfuscating, but working very hard to be of assistance. Once again I apologise for the delays.

Naku, na  
Cameron Harland

---

**From:** s 9(2)(a) [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@taxpayers.org.nz>

**Date:** Monday, 16 May 2022 at 4:04 PM

**To:** Cameron Harland <cameron@nzonair.govt.nz>

**Subject:** FW: response

Dear Mr Harland,

The email below speaks for itself. Please can you confirm whether this was run past you before sending?

We are New Zealand's largest transparency group – with 179,000+ subscribed supporters. The approach taken by your staff is quite extraordinary. I want to understand whether this tone is being set by you and/or the board, or is simply an inexperienced communications staffer.

I have asked my staff to make the correction sought; I also apologise for our media release stating that the funding of the Being Chloe documentary was \$220k when it appears to only be \$219k (the \$199k, in addition to the \$20k for script development from NZFC). One the reasons I wanted to get you on tape was to ask whether NZoA knew about the additional taxpayer funds and how such money needs to be spent on a 'script' for a 'documentary'. Isn't the idea of a documentary to find and report on facts? So the carte blanche refusal to even speak to me, or put up a spokesperson arouses real concerns. I note that among your board are people with considerable experience in media and public affairs. Are you seriously going to maintain the position that no one can front this or defend the decision?

Finally – I ask, yet again (I've got nothing but obfuscation on this) for a list and membership of the Board's subcommittees and the interests register. This is a five minute job to provide, but has been outstanding for more than a month. Again, is that under your or the Board's direction, or something else? The reasons provided by your staff about resourcing are pathetic when you consider that the information should be at hand.

Or is there something I'm missing? The defensiveness of your agency to usual processes of accountability and transparency is absurd thus I am reaching out directly before we take matters further. If I could please have your response by midday Wednesday.

Regards

s 9(2)(a)

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---

**From:** s 9(2)(a) @taxpayers.org.nz>

**Date:** Monday, 16 May 2022 at 3:14 PM

**To:** Allanah Kalafatelis <allanah@nzonair.govt.nz>

**Subject:** Re: response

What an incredibly patronising email. You are refusing to provide me with information that would be to hand and now appear to be complaining that I am making further enquiries about the validity of the apparent inability to comply with the OIA.

I am perfectly entitled to request that the request be treated with urgency. It is specifically provided for in the Act. Your suggestion that I have "harassed" a member of staff is totally rejected. It is an outrageous slur and says far more about your own professionalism than the actions of me, or my staff.

My colleague who sits next to me worked in Parliament for a decade and said he's "never seen anything like it" from someone in a public sector communications role.

Even your wording of the podcast response is condescending, as you would know.

Regards

s 9(2)(a)

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**From:** Allanah Kalafatelis <allanah@nzonair.govt.nz>

**Date:** Monday, 16 May 2022 at 2:49 PM

**To:** s 9(2)(a) @taxpayers.org.nz>

**Subject:** response



Kia ora s 9(2)(a),

Please see the media release issued Dec 3 which is clear that the Being Chloe documentary would screen AFTER the election. <https://www.nzonair.govt.nz/news/richness-real-life-stories-be-shared-aotearoa-screens-2022/>

It was never going to screen before the election. It was never \$220,000.

And no we have no interest on participating in your podcast.

Also, please note that your continued emailing to harass regarding expediting your OIAs is actually stopping the staff member working on the OIAs.

Regards,  
Allanah

**Allanah Kalafatelis**

Tumuaki o te Whakawhiti Korero me to Rangahau

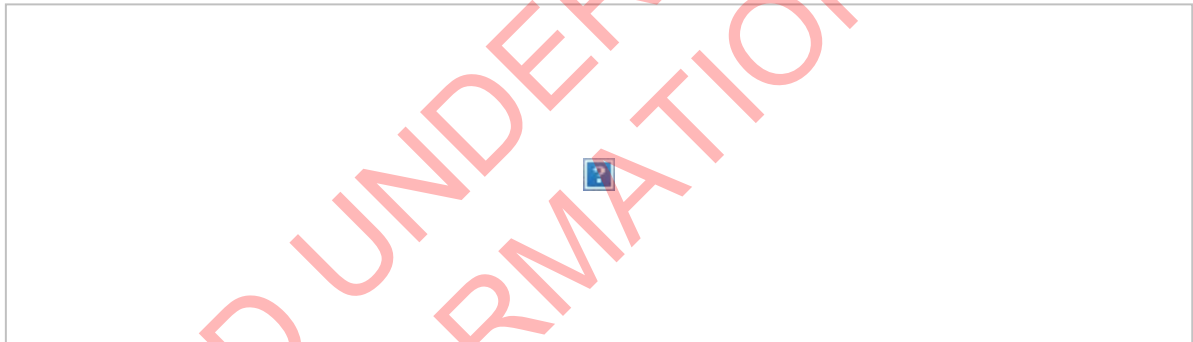
**Head of Communications and Research**

**Irirangi Te Motu | NZ On Air**

Mobile: 9(2)(a)

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We've recently updated our logo and brand assets – [download the new logos here!](#)

From: [Allanah Kalafatelis](#)  
To: [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)  
Cc: [Sophie Swarbrick](#) ([sophie@nzonair.govt.nz](mailto:sophie@nzonair.govt.nz))  
Subject: RE: Three projects in our Factual Funding release  
Date: Friday, 3 December 2021 10:22:57 am  
Attachments: [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)

Thanks [s 9\(2\)](#) – I'll pop that in now. We will send it out at 11am.

From: [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#) <[s 9\(2\)\(a\)@discovery.com](mailto:s 9(2)(a)@discovery.com)>  
Sent: Friday, 3 December 2021 10:21 am  
To: Lucy Corry <[lucy@nzonair.govt.nz](mailto:lucy@nzonair.govt.nz)>; Allanah Kalafatelis <[allanah@nzonair.govt.nz](mailto:allanah@nzonair.govt.nz)>  
Subject: Re: Three projects in our Factual Funding release

Apologies for the delay - this was sitting in my spam folder since yesterday!

Happy with Being Chlöe [s 9\(2\)\(b\)](#)

[s 9\(2\)\(b\)](#)

Thank you! Allanah - once you know when you plan to send your release out can you drop me a note, thanks

On Thu, Dec 2, 2021 at 1:12 PM Lucy Corry <[lucy@nzonair.govt.nz](mailto:lucy@nzonair.govt.nz)> wrote:

Kia ora [s 9\(2\)](#)

Congratulations on receiving funding in our latest round – here are the lines related to Three projects in our Factual media release:

*Being Chlöe*, a new documentary to screen on Three after the next election, will explore the political and personal life of New Zealand's youngest MP Chlöe Swarbrick.

[s 9\(2\)\(b\)](#)

It would be great if you could let me know if you have any feedback on these.

Nga mihi maioha,

Lucy Corry

Kaitohutohu Whakawhiti Korero Matamua/Senior Communications Advisor  
NZ On Air | Irirangi Te Motu  
Mobile: [s 9\(2\)](#)  
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--  
[s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)

PUBLICITY DISCOVERY NZ MOBILE [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)



**From:** [Allanah Kalafatelis](#)  
**To:** s 9(2)(a); [Sophie Howard](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Embargoed media release  
**Date:** Friday, 3 December 2021 10:56:05 am

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Hi s 9(2)(a),

Thanks for sharing this. Quite a line up!

Just one point from me – which would be to request the Being Chloe synopsis mentions it will screen after the election... we were at pains to mention this in our release to avoid the obvious potential backlash, and would hope you might as well.

Other than that it looks brilliant.

Cheers  
Allanah

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**From:** s 9(2)(a) @discovery.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, 3 December 2021 10:51 am  
**To:** Allanah Kalafatelis <allanah@nzonair.govt.nz>; Sophie Howard <sophie@nzonair.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Embargoed media release

Hi both, here's is our release which will go out after 11 (no later than 11:30am). If there's anything glaringly obvious that needs fixing please let me know!

Dec 3rd, 2021

### **DISCOVERY EXPANDS 2022 LOCAL PRODUCTION COMMITMENT WITH NEW DRAMA, COMEDY AND DOCUMENTARY PROGRAMMING**

Discovery has further outlined its commitment to local production with the announcement of a new slate of programmes across local drama, documentary and comedy in 2022.

Discovery is cementing Three as *the* home for local comedy with a comprehensive strategy that includes two brand new comedy series and a multi-year partnership with The New Zealand Comedy Trust. The partnership will deliver a range of comedy content across Discovery's linear and digital platforms, showcasing established and emerging talent. Further details will be announced in 2022, and will include four comedy events that will play out across multiple nights on Three: *The Comedy Gala*, *The Great Comedy Debate*, *Last Laughs* and *7 Days Live*.

Two new comedy series, *Double Parked* and *Homebound 3.0* will also air next year. Created and written by Chris Parker and Alice Snedden, *Double Parked* follows young couple Nat and Steph who are left dumbfounded when a 'disappointing' trip to the IVF clinic and a 'botched' home insemination job actually leaves both women pregnant. *Homebound 3.0* is a comedy from up-and-coming writer Sam Wang about surviving living at home in your thirties, even if it means faking a relationship to get your autocratic Chinese parents off your back.

Further documentary programming is also confirmed for 2022. *Black Coast Vanishings* is a true crime mystery series about the disappearance of six people in the small coastal town

of Piha, that has divided the locals and given rise to fear and suspicion. *Being Chlöe* is a feature documentary that will closely follow Green Party MP Chlöe Swarbrick through to the next general election - exploring her political and personal life.

Brand new local drama *Far North* will also debut in 2022. *Far North* is the TRUE story of how the most comically inept gang to ever join forces got half a billion dollars' worth of meth to New Zealand shores – and nearly to market. And they would have got away with it too, if it wasn't for that 70-year-old diesel mechanic and his aqua-aerobics instructing wife.

Discovery's Senior Director of Programming Juliet Peterson says, "Our local programming slate across drama, documentary and comedy for next year is truly phenomenal. I am particularly proud of the incredible comedy strategy Three will kick off the new year with. There is no doubt we are taking ownership of the comedy space on television next year and we look forward to sharing more on our comedy programming line up in the new year."

These new programmes will sit alongside new seasons of local favourites on Three which include: *Mean Mums*, *New Zealand Today*, *Patrick Gower On*, *David Lomas Investigates* and *Piri's Tiki Tour*.

New Zealand's most celebrated and longest running television comedy *7 Days* is also back next year for its 14th season. The revamped series will see it move to an earlier time slot of 7:30pm and will increase to one-hour episodes, reflecting Discovery's commitment to more hours of local comedy on Three.

*Far North* and *Black Coast Vanishings* are funded with the support of Te Puna Kairangi - Premium Productions for International Audiences Fund. *Double Parked*, *Homebound 3.0*, and *Being Chlöe* are all funded with the help of NZ On Air. Returning shows *7 Days*, *Patrick Gower On*, *David Lomas Investigates* are also funded with the help of NZ On Air. *Piri's Tiki Tour* is funded by Te Mangai Paho.

**For further information:**

§ 9(2)(a)

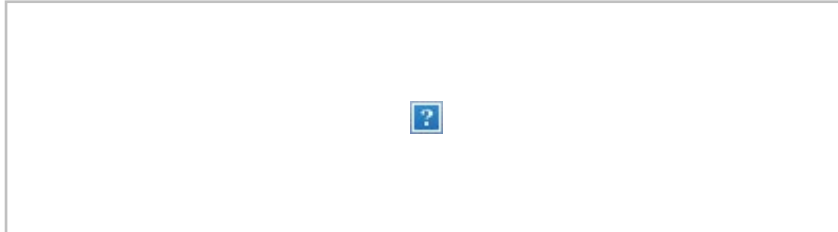
§ 9(2)(a)

**About Discovery:**

Discovery, Inc. (Nasdaq: DISCA, DISCB, DISCK) is a global leader in real life entertainment, serving a passionate audience of superfans around the world with content that inspires, informs and entertains. Discovery delivers over 8,000 hours of original programming each year and has category leadership across deeply loved content genres around the world. Available in 220 countries and territories and nearly 50 languages, Discovery is a platform innovator, reaching viewers on all screens, including TV Everywhere products such as the GO portfolio of apps; direct-to-consumer streaming services such as discovery+, Food Network Kitchen and MotorTrend OnDemand; digital-first and social content from Group Nine Media; a landmark natural history and factual content partnership with the BBC; and a strategic alliance with PGA TOUR to create the international home of golf. Discovery's portfolio of premium brands includes Discovery Channel, HGTV, Food Network, TLC, Three Investigation Discovery, Travel Channel, MotorTrend, Animal Planet, Science Channel, multi-platform news and current affairs service Newshub, and the multi-platform JV with Chip and Joanna Gaines, Magnolia Network, as well as OWN: Oprah Winfrey Network in the U.S., Discovery Kids in Latin America, Bravo in New Zealand and Eurosport, the leading provider of locally relevant, premium sports and Home of the Olympic Games across Europe. For more information, please visit [corporate.discovery.com](https://corporate.discovery.com) and follow @DiscoveryIncTV across social platforms.

--  
s 9(2)(a)

PUBLICITY DISCOVERY NZ MOBILE s 9(2)(a)



RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL  
INFORMATION ACT

**From:** s 9(2)(a)  
**To:** [Allanah Kalafatelis](#)  
**Subject:** Re: to s9(2)(a)  
**Date:** Sunday, 15 May 2022 6:56:45 pm  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Thanks for this Allanah. I'd still like someone from NZOnAir to explain the funding decision live on the platform tomorrow at 730

s9(2)  
(a)

On Sun, 15 May 2022 at 6:52 PM, Allanah Kalafatelis <[allanah@nzonair.govt.nz](mailto:allanah@nzonair.govt.nz)> wrote:

Kia ora s 9(2)  
(a),

Amie Mills is head down in a funding round right now and forwarded your email to me. The below statement hopefully corrects the mis-information being put about regarding the Being Chloe documentary.

The Being Chloe documentary, funded by NZ On Air in December 2021 is intended to be a warts and all expose on the life of New Zealand's youngest MP Chloe Swarbrick.

It will specifically NOT be released prior to the 2023 election, so claims that it will in anyway impact election campaigning are utterly wrong. (Please see the media release announcing this project from Dec 3 2021 and the reference to the documentary screening AFTER the election. <https://www.nzonair.govt.nz/news/richness-real-life-stories-be-shared-aotearoa-screens-2022/>)

Nga mihi nui

Allanah

**Allanah Kalafatelis**

Tumuaki o te Whakawhiti Korero me to Rangahau

**Head of Communications and Research**

**Irirangi Te Motu | NZ On Air**

Mobile: 9(2)(a)

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**From:** [Allanah Kalafatelis](#)  
**To:** s 9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** RE: Chloe Swarbrick film  
**Date:** Monday, 16 May 2022 2:22:04 pm

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Hi s 9(2)(a)

Please see the media release from Dec 2021 which is clear that the documentary Being Chloe would not air until after the election.  
The Taxpayers Union release is wrong.

<https://www.nzonair.govt.nz/news/richness-real-life-stories-be-shared-aotearoa-screens-2022/>

Kind regards,  
Allanah

### Allanah Kalafatelis

Tumuaki o te Whakawhiti Korero me te Rangahau  
Head of Communications and Research  
Irirangi Te Motu | NZ On Air  
Mob s 9(2)(a)

*Connecting and reflecting Aotearoa*

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**From:** s 9(2)(a) <s 9(2)(a)@nzme.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Monday, 16 May 2022 1:58 pm  
**To:** Allanah Kalafatelis <allanah@nzonair.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Chloe Swarbrick film

Hello,

Could I please schedule an interview for this afternoon - within the next hour if possible - with someone about the money you've granted to this Chloe Swarbrick film?

(<https://mailchi.mp/3fc6d063557e/nz-on-air-need-to-front-to-explain-220000-of-taxpayer-money-fora-hagiography-film-about-chle-swarbrick>)

Thanks, please get back to me asap.

s 9(2)(a)  
Press Gallery

s 9(2)(a)  
s 9(2)(a) <s 9(2)(a)@nzme.co.nz>





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**From:** [Amie Mills](#)  
**To:** [Allanah Kalafatelis](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Being Chloe Documentary  
**Date:** Sunday, 15 May 2022 3:14:38 pm

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Further context from [REDACTED].

**Amie Mills**

Pou Tuku Putea / Head of Funding

**NZ On Air | Iirangi Te Motu**

9(2)(a) [REDACTED]

[www.nzonair.govt.nz](http://www.nzonair.govt.nz)

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Begin forwarded message:

**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@razorfilms.co.nz>  
**Date:** 15 May 2022 at 15:02:29 NZST  
**To:** Amie Mills <amie@nzonair.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Being Chloe Documentary

Kia ora Amie

Thought I'd let you know - I'm not a Twitter user but it has been brought to my attention the Taxpayers Union Twitter feed <https://twitter.com/taxpayersunion/status/1524924236665499648?s=24> has started a thread about NZOA funding the Being Chlöe documentary.

[REDACTED] on The Platform also seems to have picked up on the story



Both seem to be labouring under the misapprehension that the documentary will assist Chlöe Swarbrick/The Green Party's election campaign. As we know, the film will not be released until after the next election – a deliberate decision to ensure it can't have any effect on the election. Also, the screenshot associated with the tweet looks like it also has something from a NZFC document about 20k development money initially given to the film – which most of the comments seem to have conflated with NZOA funding.

Ah, the joys of social media.

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

Razor Films

s 9(2)(a)

RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL  
INFORMATION ACT

**From:** [Allanah Kalafatelis](#)  
**To:** [Sue Senadeera](#); [Hilaire Carmody](#)  
**Subject:** Response to emails re Being Chloe  
**Date:** Monday, 16 May 2022 4:08:02 pm  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Hi both,  
Here's the response to send to these emails.

**(subject line) The facts regarding *Being Chloe***

Thank you for your email.

Misinformation is being spread about the above documentary. It is explicitly to screen AFTER the 2023 election.

Please see the media release issued on December 3, 2021 announcing this funding

<https://www.nzonair.govt.nz/news/richness-real-life-stories-be-shared-aotearoa-screens-2022/>

In this you will see that the timing was announced in this media release six months ago. Nothing has changed since this release.

You will also see that the NZ On Air funding committed to this film project is \$199,999.

The project is an extension of the critically acclaimed 2020 *Loading Docs* short documentary [OK Chlöe](#) and is to be a 'warts and all exploration' of the personal journey of NZ's youngest MP.

**Allanah Kalafatelis**

Tumuaki o te Whakawhiti Korero me to Rangahau

**Head of Communications and Research**

**Irirangi Te Motu | NZ On Air**

Mobile: 9(2)(a)

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**From:** [Allanah Kalafatelis](#)  
**To:** [Hilaire Carmody](#)  
**Cc:** [Cameron Harland](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Bing Chloe - questions and request for interview  
**Date:** Monday, 16 May 2022 9:58:52 am

---

Hi Hilaire,

Suggested response: "We note that you already have an OIA request in for information in relation to the documentary Being Chloe.

We will add the information requested here to that request.

Additionally, I have forwarded your request for an interview to our Head of Communications Allanah Kalafatelis who will come back to you.

Cheers  
Allanah

---

**From:** Hilaire Carmody <[hilaire@nzonair.govt.nz](mailto:hilaire@nzonair.govt.nz)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 16 May 2022 9:04 am  
**To:** Allanah Kalafatelis <[allanah@nzonair.govt.nz](mailto:allanah@nzonair.govt.nz)>; Cameron Harland <[cameron@nzonair.govt.nz](mailto:cameron@nzonair.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** FW: Bing Chloe - questions and request for interview  
**Importance:** High

Morena

Please see below to add to the TPU conversation.  
Chat to you in about 2 seconds on SLT.

Hilaire

---

**From:** s 9(2)(a) <[\[REDACTED\]@taxpayers.org.nz](mailto:[REDACTED]@taxpayers.org.nz)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 16 May 2022 7:34 am  
**To:** Hilaire Carmody <[hilaire@nzonair.govt.nz](mailto:hilaire@nzonair.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** Bing Chloe - questions and request for interview  
**Importance:** High

Hi Cameron,

Please can you send me the application and advice provided to the decision makers in relation to the "Being Chloe" grant?

Who were the decision makers for this grant? Were the Board (or any members of) consulted?

Finally, we'd like to invite you, or a spokesperson for NZ on Air, to discuss this grant for our podcast – sent to our 179,000 subscribed supporters. We can do it in person here in Auckland (we have a studio on Shortland Street), or down the line from our Wellington Board room, or

over the line remotely (assuming you have a good internet connection).

Regards

s 9(2)(a)

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the signature and name of the sender.

**New Zealand Taxpayers' Union Inc.** | Main +64 4 282 0300 | Level 4, 117 Lambton Quay, Wellington 6011 | PO Box 10518, The Terrace, Wellington 6143 | [www.taxpayers.org.nz](http://www.taxpayers.org.nz)  
**Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance** | Main +64 9 281 5172 | CCHQ, Level 14, 41 Shortland Street, Auckland 1010 | PO Box 133099, Eastridge, Auckland 1146 | [www.ratepayers.nz](http://www.ratepayers.nz)

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RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

**From:** [Allanah Kalafatelis](#)  
**To:** s 9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] - Re: Documentary  
**Date:** Tuesday, 17 May 2022 12:10:31 pm

---

Hi s 9(2)(a),

I would amend slightly to say:

*It's not the first time a sitting MP has been featured in an NZ On Air-funded programme.*

And wonder if you might also add something like:

**NZ On Air runs a contestable process that any producer can enter into with any subject matter.**

??

Cheers  
Allanah

---

**From:** s 9(2)(a) <s 9(2)(a)@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 17 May 2022 11:59 am  
**To:** Allanah Kalafatelis <allanah@nzonair.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] - Re: Documentary

Hey Alannah,

See below and my suggested response - thoughts? I know what you're saying about can of worms, but I do feel it's important to respond?

*It's not the first time a sitting politician has been featured in a NZ On Air produced programme.*

*I think what it does reveal is that there is some serious discussions to be had about the impact of the media and social media trolling on the mental health of MPs.*

s 9(2)(a)

---

s 9(2)(a)  
Creative Producer

s 9(2)(a)

**From:** [Allanah Kalafatelis](#)  
**To:** s 9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** RE: Newstalk ZB chat  
**Date:** Tuesday, 17 May 2022 1:58:23 pm

---

Sorry s 9(2)(a) no one is available for interview today.  
We are flat out prepping further info for release.  
Please note it simply can't be election advertising as it won't be released until after the election.  
Happy to add you to the list of people who want more info.

---

**From:** s 9(2)(a) @nzme.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 17 May 2022 1:52 pm  
**To:** Allanah Kalafatelis <allanah@nzonair.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Newstalk ZB chat

Hi Allanah, s 9(2)(a) here from Newstalk ZB, hope you're well

I'm helping sort out s 9(2)(a) show today and we were wondering if anyone from NZ On Air would be available for a 5-minute interview on the decision to fund the documentary *Being Chloe*?

Just hoping to get a response 9( s 9(2)(a) it's election advertising, and not a good use of public money.

Ideally we'd like to do it live at 5.35pm, and it'd just be 5 minutes or so.

Any chance anyone is available at all?

Thanks, appreciate your time,

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)  
**Technical Producer - Drive | Newstalk ZB**

s 9(2)(a)  
s 9(2)(a) @nzme.co.nz

**ME:** My pronouns are s 9(2)(a)





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**From:** [Allanah Kalafatelis](#)  
**To:** [Sharon Kerry](#)  
**Subject:** Re: URGENT WPQs: Being Chloe  
**Date:** Thursday, 19 May 2022 7:14:29 pm  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)  
[image001.jpg](#)

---

Only comms has been this week which is six months after the decision. Not sure there's anything we need to provide.

Sent from my iPhone so please excuse typos

On 19/05/2022, at 7:08 PM, Sharon Kerry <[sharon@nzonair.govt.nz](mailto:sharon@nzonair.govt.nz)> wrote:

Kia ora koutou,

The Minister has received the following three written Parliamentary Questions for response by tomorrow please:

- 15228 (2022) for [§ 9\(2\)\(a\)](#) - When was the Minister alerted to the possibility of the Being Chlöe documentary being funded by NZ on Air and what actions, if any, did he undertake as a result?
- 15230 (2022) for [§ 9\(2\)\(a\)](#) - What discussions, if any, has the Minister had with his officials, by time, date, and reason, relating to the Being Chlöe documentary, funded \$199,999 and announced 27 April 2022 by NZ on Air?
- 15229 (2022) for [§ 9\(2\)\(a\)](#) - What discussions, if any, has the Minister had with NZ on Air by time, date and reason, relating to the Being Chlöe documentary announced in May 2022?

**Can you confirm whether anyone from NZ On Air has corresponded either with Minister [§ 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)'s office or with Manatu Taonga officials about the decision to fund Being Chlöe?**

Can you please advise?

Thanks  
Sharon

**Sharon Kerry**

Head of Corporate Services | Tumuaki o te Ratonga Rangatopu

**NZ On Air | Irirangi Te Motu**

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image001.jpg



**From:** [Allanah Kalafatelis](#)  
**To:** s 9(2)(a)  
**Cc:** s 9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** RE: TVNZ 1News: Chloe Swarbrick Doco  
**Date:** Tuesday, 17 May 2022 12:49:53 pm  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)  
[image002.jpg](#)

---

Hi s 9(2)(a)

I'm sorry we are flat out pulling together a raft of information in response to enquiries about this.

Happy to include you in the list of recipients when ready.

In the meantime you will find funding decisions and media releases on our website. There's a very good search tool.

And to make it even easier here's the original release

<https://www.nzonair.govt.nz/news/richness-real-life-stories-be-shared-aotearoa-screens-2022/>

Nga mihi nui

Allanah

---

**From:** s 9(2)(a) @tvnz.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 17 May 2022 12:35 pm  
**To:** Allanah Kalafatelis <allanah@nzonair.govt.nz>  
**Cc:** s 9(2)(a) @tvnz.co.nz>  
**Subject:** TVNZ 1News: Chloe Swarbrick Doco

Hi Allanah,

We're following up on the recent criticism of the funding of the Chloe Swarbrick documentary, Being Chloe.

Are you able to provide the rationale for the funding decision? And how the \$199,000 allocation stacks up against other similar productions?

Thanks very much,

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)



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**From:** [Clark, Linda](#)  
**To:** [Cameron Harland](#); [Helen Grattan](#); [Ruth Harley](#); [phil.broughton](#); 9(2)(a) [John McCay](#); [Sarona.Iosefa](#); 9(2)(a)  
**Cc:** [Allanah Kalafatelis](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Taxpayers Union  
**Date:** Monday, 16 May 2022 12:16:47 pm  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)

---

Thanks for the update Cam.



**Linda Clark**  
Partner

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**From:** Cameron Harland <[cameron@nzonair.govt.nz](mailto:cameron@nzonair.govt.nz)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 16 May 2022 12:07 p.m.  
**To:** Helen Grattan 9(2)(a); Ruth Harley 9(2)(a); Clark, Linda 9(2)(a); phil.broughton 9(2)(a) John McCay 9(2)(a) Sarona.Iosefa 9(2)(a)  
**Cc:** Allanah Kalafatelis <[allanah@nzonair.govt.nz](mailto:allanah@nzonair.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** Taxpayers Union

**[WARNING: EXTERNAL SENDER]**

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Kia ora tatou,

Some of you may be aware that we are currently the subject of a vitriolic misinformation campaign by the Taxpayers union. 9(2)(a) "The Platform" has also picked it up.

This began on Twitter last week and the comms team have been monitoring. It's all to do with the

decision to fund *Being Chloe*, a warts and all documentary on NZ's youngest MP Chloe Swarbrick. The media release announcing this funding (Dec 2021) specifically mentioned that it would screen after the 2023 election. <https://www.nzonair.govt.nz/news/richness-real-life-stories-be-shared-aotearoa-screens-2022/>

The misinformation is being put about that it is a 'political puff piece' to screen in election year.

We have received a number of OIA's and a full inbox today, and the Taxpayers Union has put out a media release claiming we have gone to ground.

I want to assure you that we are preparing a simple factual response linking to the media release. We will not be engaging in debate about this or bowing to social media trolls. We will use this reactively – we have no intention of adding oxygen by issuing a media statement proactively.

This is an example of the kind of debate we expect will only increase in the current environment, and certainly headed into election year next year. While it creates an increased workload for staff, it is otherwise BAU.

Nga mihi nui,

Cameron Harland

**Chief Executive**

**NZ On Air | Irirangi Te Motu**

Pronouns: He/Him

Mobile: 9(2)(a)

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cid:image001.jpg@01D65C49.29687D50



**From:** § 9(2)(a)  
**To:** "Amie Mills"  
**Cc:** § 9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** Being Chloe - NZFC early development  
**Date:** Tuesday, 17 May 2022 11:56:48 am

---

Hi Amie

Thought I'd add a bit of background re our successful application for early development funding for Being Chlöe from the NZFC. That grant was for 20k, and it seems to be conflated with NZOA funding by some people.

Someone said it was supposedly for script development. Not sure where that comes from, but the NZFC processes are very much geared to traditional scripted drama – to the point where information boxes, process steps etc sometimes still retain their scripted labels.

This can be frustrating if you are pitching a documentary as some of the labels clearly aren't appropriate.

- Needless to say, Being Chlöe is an observational documentary, and we are simply filming what happens. We have not developed or written any script.
- The development grant was to update and improve our proposal and treatment, to make it more attractive to investors and potential distributors - particularly offshore.
- The grant was also used to film more proof-of-concept material and to improve our teaser for the project - for the same purpose.
- The bulk of the 20k was spent paying a DOP and an editor to update the teaser.

Cheers

§ 9(2)(a)

§ 9(2)(a)

§ 9(2)(a) Razor Films

§ 9(2)(a)

§ 9(2)(a)

§ 9(2)(a)

**From:** [Cameron Harland](#)  
**To:** [Allanah Kalafatelis](#); [Hilaire Carmody](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Draft for Board  
**Date:** Tuesday, 17 May 2022 11:41:39 am  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Thanks Allanah this is great. [@Hilaire Carmody](#) can you get this to the Board (and s 9(2)(a)) with the attachments?

---

**From:** Allanah Kalafatelis <[allanah@nzonair.govt.nz](mailto:allanah@nzonair.govt.nz)>  
**Date:** Tuesday, 17 May 2022 at 11:31 AM  
**To:** Cameron Harland <[cameron@nzonair.govt.nz](mailto:cameron@nzonair.govt.nz)>, Hilaire Carmody <[hilaire@nzonair.govt.nz](mailto:hilaire@nzonair.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** Draft for Board

Hi Cam,

Here's a draft of what to send to update the Board and provide the interests register that will be released as part of the overall release.

As you will see the issues around Being Chloe are continuing.  
We are dealing with a large number of email enquiries/complaints and OIA's, and unfortunately some unregulated media entities who are on the attack.

We have decided to take a proactive approach, which is also the most efficient.

Staff are working on a proactive release of everything that has been requested under OIA (that is able to be released) as one release on our website.  
We will issue a very straight forward media release linking to this, and in this we can provide more context (such as this is just one of xx projects funded in the year).

As part of this release, we have been asked for the Board 'interests' register. This is attached so that you know what is being released.

Taking into account our all staff day tomorrow we think we can get this out by Thursday or Friday this week.

**Allanah Kalafatelis**

Tumuaki o te Whakawhiti Korero me to Rangahau

**Head of Communications and Research**

**Irirangi Te Motu | NZ On Air**

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**From:** [Allanah Kalafatelis](#)  
**To:** s9(2)(a)  
**Cc:** s9(2)(a); s9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** RE: Being Chloe  
**Date:** Tuesday, 17 May 2022 5:30:20 pm

---

Absolutely will.

Cheers

A

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**From:** s9(2)(a)@nzfilm.co.nz  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 17 May 2022 5:27 pm  
**To:** Allanah Kalafatelis <allanah@nzonair.govt.nz>  
**Cc:** s9(2)(a)@nzfilm.co.nz; s9(2)(a)  
@nzfilm.co.nz  
**Subject:** Being Chloe

Hi Allanah,

Great talking earlier. Thanks for the heads up regarding the intended bulk release of information/documents on the Being Chloe project.

Are you able to send us s9(2)(a) ccd) copies of documents where the NZFC is mentioned before the release.

Thanks so much

s9(2)

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