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27 July 2022

§ 9(2)(a)

Taxpayer's Union

By email: § 9(2) [@taxpayers.org.nz](mailto:§ 9(2)@taxpayers.org.nz)

Tēnā koe § 9(2)(a)

Official Information request and response

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act ("OIA") dated 30 June 2022. This was in response to an OIA response NZ On Air provided to you on 30 June 2022.

You have requested:

- 1. What policies or conditions of funding does NZOA have around the requirement for productions that receive NZOA funding to release the production on completion? Is there anything from preventing a recipient of funding from never publicly releasing the final product? Is there any timeframe for which a production must be completed by and released as a general NZOA policy and any such timeframe or expectation for this specific production (Princess of Chaos).*
- 2. Why is the amount of \$2,711,800 listed in the response below more than the [announced funding details](#) of up to \$2,549,000 and platform reduction up to \$104,000. The combined amount in the announcement is \$2,653,000. What was the purpose of the additional \$58,000 in funding, what was it used for and when was the decision for the additional funding made.*
- 3. What steps have NZOA taken to ensure that the money awarded for this production has been spent on its intended purpose.*

Please see our response below:

1. The terms and conditions requiring a funded recipient and the supporting broadcaster (the organisation who ultimately decides on the release of content) to release the production on completion and conditions regarding why a project may not be publicly released can be found in our [Standard Funding Agreement](#). We decline this part of your request under Section 18(d) as the information requested is publicly available.

Each funded project has its own specific and individual production schedule, and each project can experience delays, especially whilst operating in a pandemic. As such there is no specific timeframe for which all productions must be completed by and released as part of a general NZ On Air policy. We decline this part of your request under Section 18(e) as the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist.

This project is now with the supporting broadcaster for scheduling. As we have previously advised, NZ On Air does not decide the scheduling of funded projects and we do not currently have information regarding the release of this specific production. We decline this part of your request under Section 18(e) as the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist.

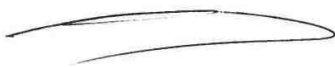
2. To clarify, the level of funding provided by NZ On Air to this production is \$2,707,800. We apologise for this error in our response to you on 30 June 2022. The \$54,800 difference is a combination of development funding (approvals made in March 2019 and December 2019, respectively), an increase to the [Platform Contribution Reduction Funding](#) (decision made in April 2021) and [Screen Production Recovery Funding](#) (decision made in April 2022).
3. Please refer to our [Standard Funding Agreement](#) template for guidance on the steps our agency takes to ensure our funding is being spent on its intended purpose. All production funding agreements include a drawdown schedule under which our funding is distributed. Most instalments in the drawdown schedule require the funding recipient to submit a cost report and a producer report. Guidance on the required detail of those reports can be found on our website [here](#). We decline this part of your request under Section 18(d) as the information requested is publicly available.

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



Sharon Kerry
HEAD OF CORPORATE SERVICES