

9 March 2026

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Dear [REDACTED]

Official information request for details of payments made by the Guardians of New Zealand Superannuation to media and social media companies during the 2025 calendar year

I refer to your official information request dated 16 February 2026, in which you asked for details of payments made by the Guardians of New Zealand Superannuation during calendar year 2025 to

- Google/Alphabet, Meta, and TikTok

and to

- New Zealand-based media companies including Stuff Ltd, NZME, TVNZ, Sky, Warner Brothers Discovery, MediaWorks, Are Media, Whakaata Maori, ODT, Go Media, JCDecaux, Newsroom, The Spinoff, Ooh Media, Lumo, 1XX, Whakatane Beacon, Reality Check Radio, The Platform, and any other New Zealand-based media company that fits the spirit of this request.

Our Response

In the 2025 calendar year, the Guardians of New Zealand Superannuation made no payments to any of Google/Alphabet, Meta, and Tiktok.

Payments (all excluding GST) were made to the following New Zealand-based media companies:

Carbon News	\$1,410
Fourth Estate Holdings (The National Business Review)	\$35,500
JDJL (interest.co.nz)	\$956.52
Newsroom	Withheld under Section9(2)b(ii)
NZME (NZ Herald, BusinessDesk)	Withheld under Section9(2)b(ii)
Scoop Publishing	\$2,703
Stuff	\$519.12

The Guardians also has paid subscriptions with a number of sole operator-style NZ media commentators; however, based on our discussion with you, we consider that these are not

captured by the spirit of your request and have not included them here. Please lodge a separate OIA request if you do wish to obtain this information.

In deciding to withhold the size of the payments made to Newsroom and NZME we have factored in feedback received from both of those companies regarding the commercial sensitivity to their businesses of what are bespoke subscription arrangements with us.

Section 9 (2)(b)(ii) of the OIA states that good reason for withholding official information exists where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.

These specific subscription arrangements are commercially sensitive and should not be made public, nor disclosed to another competing media organisation.

We considered whether the public interest in favour of disclosure outweighs the reasons for us to withhold such information and concluded that it does not.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where we consider the request to be a material one. Our response to your request will be published shortly at <https://www.nzsuperfund.nz/publications/disclosures/oia/>, with your personal information removed.

Yours sincerely

Catherine Etheredge

Head of Communications