



5 May 2026

Ref: DOIA-REQ-0030652

Privacy of natural persons

Thank you for your email of 7 April 2026 to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

Please let me know if you are able to provide any information about:

(ii) MBIE's compliance or non-compliance with the 'no surprises' expectation that is set out in clause 9 of the MHUD-MBIE March 2021 Memorandum of Understanding that is published at <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/dmsdocument/30936-oia-request-for-details-of-the-agreement-between-mbie-and-hud-regarding-the-obligations-under-the-residential-tenancies-and-unit-titles-act-pdf>

I understand your query relates to the article [Privacy of natural persons](#), linked here - <https://www.nzherald.co.nz/the-listener/new-zealand/title-fights-what-owners-wished-they-knew-before-buying-into-apartments-and-townhouses/premium/SOEPQ5NTWRDFXFGNLEJUB5LPEA/>, and MBIE's compliance with clause 9 in the Memorandum of Understanding you have referenced.

I can confirm the MBIE communications team gave the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development and the Minister's Office a no surprises notification on three occasions regarding our response to the media query which resulted in the Listener story.

The first instance was on 29 October 2025, prior to the initial media response being sent to the Listener. In March 2026, the Listener requested an updated response as publication of their story was now imminent. As a result, MBIE gave two subsequent no surprises notifications regarding our updated responses on 13 March 2026 and 17 March 2026. I understand you were provided with these documents as part of your response to MOIA-REQ-0030807. As such I have not attached these here.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, or if you require any further assistance, please contact OIA@mbie.govt.nz.

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.

Nāku noa, nā

Karin Schofield
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Strategy & Assurance