

16 August 2021

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

19 JULY 2021: OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

In your email dated 19 July 2021 you requested the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

1. *all documents, emails, notes, briefings, diary notes etc. relating to the movie now known as "They Are Us" dating back to original dealings over the concept.*
2. *all documents, emails, notes, briefings, diary notes etc. relating to other proposals for concepts relating to the March 15 terror attack.*

Answers to Part 1 of your request are set out below:

The New Zealand Film Commission (NZFC) has received separate requests for information under the OIA that ask for all documents and correspondence in relation to the film project *They Are Us*. Responses to these requests have been published on the NZFC website, therefore some of the information you have requested is already publicly available.

You will find these responses by visiting: <https://www.nzfilm.co.nz/requests-official-information>.

There are additional documents that fall within scope due to the extended period of time your request covers. These are attached at **Appendix 1**.

Information has been withheld in full or redacted where one of the following withholding grounds under the OIA applies and where, on balance the withholding of the information is not outweighed by other considerations which render it desirable, in the public interest, to make that information available:

- Section 9(2)(a): to protect the privacy of natural persons;
- Section 9(2)(b)(ii): to protect information 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;

- Section 9(2)(ba)(i): to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence, where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied; and
- Section 9(2)(g)(i): to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to Ministers of the Crown or members of an organisation or officers and employees of any department or organisation in the course of their duty.

The NZFC has received a number of requests for information under the OIA in relation to the film project *They Are Us*. Correspondence in relation to these requests fall within the timeframe of your request, however, as they do not relate specifically to the film and rather our internal processes on responding to the requests, we have not included them in this response.

Answers to Part 2 of your request are set out below:

Unfortunately, it will not be possible to meet the time limit of your request for information in relation to other proposals for concepts relating to the March 15 terror attack. Therefore, the NZFC will be extending the timeframe to respond to this part of your request, to 13 September 2021. However, we will endeavour to provide you with a response as soon as is possible.

This extension is required as consultation necessary to make a decision on the request is such that a proper response to the request cannot reasonably be made within the original time limit. This is in accordance with s 15A(1)(b) of the OIA.

Please note that we will be publishing this letter (with your personal information removed) and **Appendix 1** on the NZFC website.

You have the right, by way of complaint to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act, to seek an investigation and review of our response.

Yours sincerely



Tayla Hancock
Policy Advisor
New Zealand Film Commission

APPENDIX 1

From: [Philippa Mossman](#)
To: [Bree Loverich](#)
Cc: [Chris Payne](#)
Subject: RE: They are us- script leak
Date: Monday, 12 July 2021 12:53:25 p.m.
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[image002.png](#)

Kia Ora Bree

Yes feel free to pass contact details along and I will speak with Chris also about comms with the producers.

Best wishes,
Philippa

Philippa Mossman
NZFC
M: + [REDACTED]

From: Bree Loverich [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 12 July 2021 12:37 p.m.
To: Philippa Mossman <philippa.mossman@nzfilm.co.nz>
Subject: They are us- script leak

Kia ora,

The Mayor of Christchurch would like to speak to the film commission, in the first instance about the the movie They Are Us.

She is most concerned about the impact this is having on the community.

I think she would really like an introduction to the producers.

I'll pass on your contact details to her. I'm available the rest of the week to join any meeting about this and offer support.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

Ngā mihi nui,
Bree

Bree Loverich
Screen CanterburyNZ Manager

[REDACTED]

From: [Mladen Ivancic](#)
To: [Anna Butler](#); [Hannah Newport-Watson](#)
Cc: [Chris Payne](#); [Jasmin McSweeney](#)
Subject: They Are Us
Date: Wednesday, 7 July 2021 5:32:26 p.m.

Hi Anna & Hannah

This is a courtesy note to advise that, following a further review of our files, we have now determined that the NZFC had initial engagement with the producers of *They Are Us* in late October 2019, rather than March 2020 as previously communicated.

These records show that Andrew Niccol, Stewart Till and former CEO, Annabelle Sheehan corresponded via email on 30 & 31 October 2019 to set up an in-person meeting, which was held in Los Angeles on 9 November 2019 (Los Angeles time) in the margins of the American Film Market (AFM).

Neither of the NZFC staff involved with that correspondence and meeting—specifically Annabelle Sheehan and her EA—continue to work for the NZFC, so they have not been involved in the NZFC's provision of information in respect of the organisation's engagement with *They Are Us*.

Furthermore, this additional correspondence and meeting do not reference *They Are Us*, and as such this material was not located in our initial search of our electronic files; it has since been located manually and we are advising you of this for completeness.

Regards

Mladen

From: [Kerry Prendergast](#)
To: [Chris Payne](#)
Subject: Re: Request for phone call - Lianne Dalziel
Date: Saturday, 17 July 2021 9:21:55 a.m.

Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

On 16 Jul 2021, at 5:30 pm, Chris Payne <chris.payne@nzfilm.co.nz> wrote:

Hi Kerry

FYI – just to keep you updated on the status of this engagement.

Have a great weekend ahead!

Chris

<!--[if !vml]-->

<[image002.jpg](#)>

<!--[endif]-->Chris Payne | Head of International Relations

New Zealand Film Commission | Te Tumu Whakaata Taonga

Level 3, 119 Ghuznee St, Wellington 6011 | PO Box 11546, Manners Street, Wellington 6142

M: +[\[REDACTED\]](#)

www.nzfilm.co.nz | ondemand.nzfilm.co.nz

<[image010.png](#)>

<[image011.png](#)>

<[image012.png](#)>

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Please consider the environment before printing this email.

<[image013.png](#)>

From: Chris Payne

Sent: Friday, 16 July 2021 5:25 p.m.

To: [\[REDACTED\]](#)

Cc: Mladen Ivancic <mladen.ivancic@nzfilm.co.nz>; Philippa Mossman <Philippa.Mossman@nzfilm.co.nz>

Subject: RE: Request for phone call - Lianne Dalziel

Kia ora Ruth

I'm following up in relation to the phone call that Mladen Ivancic (Acting CEO), Philippa Mossman (Head of International Screen Attraction) and I had earlier this week with Lianne Dalziel and Jocelyn Ritchie regarding *They Are Us*.

Following on from our conversation, I engaged with producer, Stewart Till about Lianne's desire to speak with the filmmaking team.

Stewart has acknowledged this request, and has indicated that he will come back to me once he has discussed this with writer/director/producer, Andrew Niccol and producer, Ayman Jamal.

I'll be back in touch once I hear further.

Noho ora mai

Chris

<!--[if !vml]-->

<image003.jpg>

<!--[endif]-->Chris Payne | Head of International Relations

New Zealand Film Commission | Te Tumu Whakaata Taonga

Level 3, 119 Ghuznee St, Wellington 6011 | PO Box 11546, Manners Street, Wellington 6142

M: [REDACTED]

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From: Close, Ruth [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 12, 2021 2:02 PM
To: Philippa Mossman
Subject: Request for phone call - Lianne Dalziel

Dear Philippa

I am contacting you on behalf of Christchurch Mayor, Lianne Dalziel, who was

provided your email address by Bree Loverich of Screen Canterbury.

Lianne would like a quick conversation with you regarding the script of 'They Are Us'.
Would you have 10 minutes available either later today or tomorrow when she could call?


I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

Ruth Close

Executive Assistant to the Mayor
Office of the Mayor and Chief Executive

<image014.jpg>

<image015.png> 

<image016.png> 

<image017.png> Te Hononga Civic Offices, 53 Hereford Street, Christchurch

<image018.png> PO Box 73016, Christchurch 8154

<image019.png> ccc.govt.nz

<image020.png>

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Christchurch City Council
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From: [Chris Payne](#)
To: [Kerry Prendergast](#); [David Strong](#)
Cc: [Mladen Ivancic](#)
Subject: FW: Chronology
Date: Tuesday, 13 July 2021 4:46:34 p.m.
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.jpg](#)
[They Are Us - Chronology of NZFC Engagement \(13.07.2021\).pdf](#)
[image002.jpg](#)
[image008.jpg](#)

Hi Kerry and David

FYI **attached** updated full chronology requested under urgency today by Sarah Tebbs – on-supplying here for your awareness as noted below.

All best

Chris

Chris Payne | Chief Operating Officer (Acting) & Head of International Relations
New Zealand Film Commission | Te Tumu Whakaata Taonga
Level 3, 119 Ghuznee St, Wellington 6011 | PO Box 11546, Manners Street, Wellington 6142

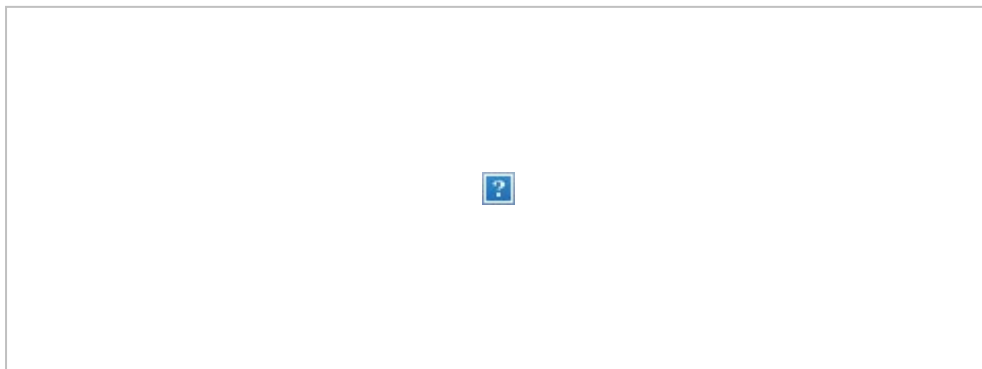
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From: Chris Payne <chris.payne@nzfilm.co.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 13 July 2021 4:43 p.m.
To: Sarah Tebbs <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Mladen Ivancic <mladen.ivancic@nzfilm.co.nz>
Subject: Chronology

Hi Sarah, Anna and Hannah

With apologies for delay, please find **attached** the updated chronology.

Please let us know if you have any further queries.

For clarity, this same document will be provided immediately following sending to the NZFC Chair and CEO.

All best

Chris

Chris Payne | Chief Operating Officer (Acting) & Head of International Relations

New Zealand Film Commission | Te Tumu Whakaata Taonga

Level 3, 119 Ghuznee St, Wellington 6011 | PO Box 11546, Manners Street, Wellington 6142

M: +

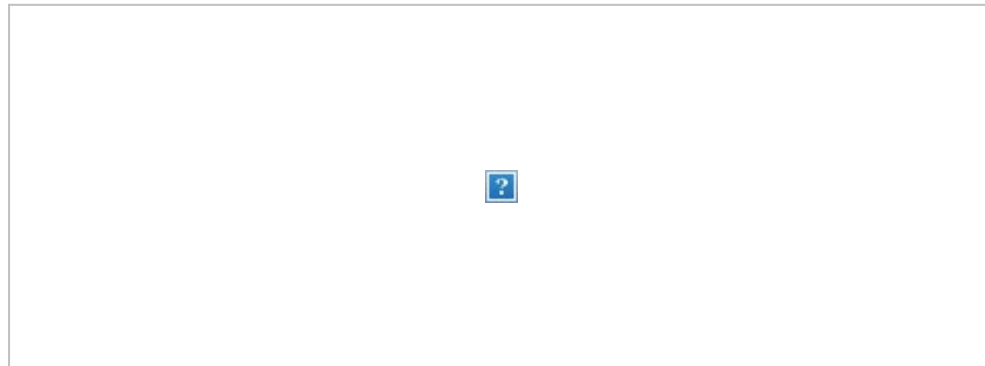
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From: [Chris Payne](#)
To: [Chris Payne](#); [Jasmin McSweeney](#)
Subject: RE: Andrew Niccol call
Date: Monday, 19 July 2021 11:47:11 a.m.
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[image002.jpg](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)

Filenote: JM and CP held this phone meeting with Andrew Niccol, which lasted 30 minutes. The topics covered in the conversation are commercial in confidence.

Chris Payne | Head of International Relations
New Zealand Film Commission | Te Tumu Whakaata Taonga
Level 3, 119 Ghuznee St, Wellington 6011 | PO Box 11546, Manners Street, Wellington 6142

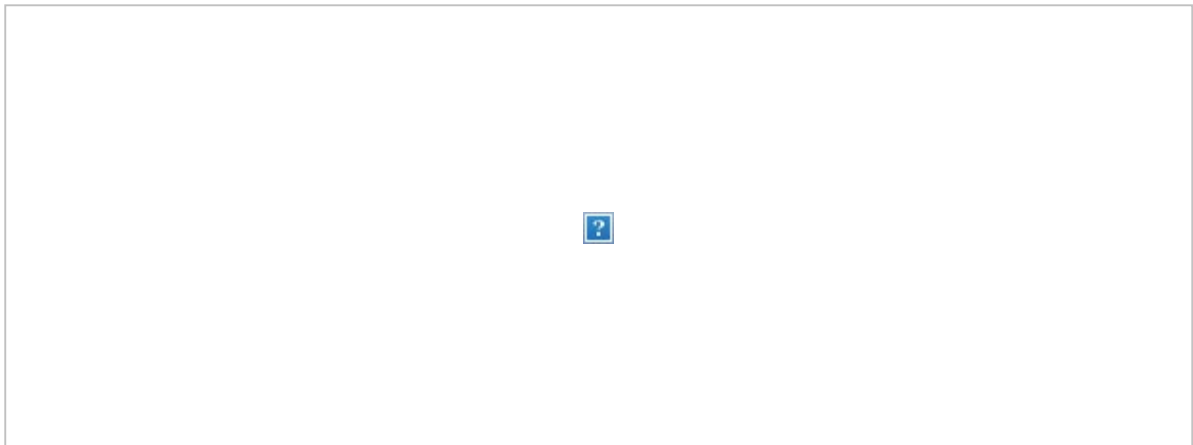
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-----Original Appointment-----

From: Chris Payne
Sent: Saturday, 17 July 2021 1:46 p.m.
To: Chris Payne; Jasmin McSweeney
Subject: Andrew Niccol call
When: Sunday, 18 July 2021 3:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m. (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada).
Where: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Andrew Niccol [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 17 July 2021 10:14 a.m.
To: Chris Payne <chris.payne@nzfilm.co.nz>
Cc: Jasmin McSweeney <jasmin.mcsweeney@nzfilm.co.nz>
Subject: Re:

Thanks, Chris.

Yes, can we have a chat Sunday, 3pm PST?

On Jul 15, 2021, at 2:00 PM, Chris Payne <chris.payne@nzfilm.co.nz> wrote:

Kia ora Andrew

Thanks for your note and sorry to miss your phone call yesterday.

I'm cc'ing my colleague, Jasmin McSweeney (Head of Marketing) with whom I work closely on our international activity (e.g. we're both participating in the Cannes virtual market currently).

Unfortunately today's a bit tricky schedule-wise for us both given Cannes meetings and other commitments here -- how are you placed to speak on Monday NZT / your Sunday?

We can call you on the number below at a time that best suits.

Noho ora mai

Chris

Chris Payne | Chief Operating Officer (Acting) & Head of International Relations
New Zealand Film Commission | Te Tumu Whakaata Taonga
Level 3, 119 Ghuznee St, Wellington 6011 | PO Box 11546, Manners Street, Wellington
6142

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P Please consider the environment before printing this email.

-----Original Message-----

From: Andrew Niccol [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 15 July 2021 12:45 p.m.
To: Chris Payne <chris.payne@nzfilm.co.nz>
Subject:

Hi Chris,

Hope all is well.

Do you have a moment to jump on the phone today? [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] and would love to pick your brain for a minute.

My number is [REDACTED].

Thanks,

Andrew


From: [Chris Payne](#)
To: [Close, Ruth](#)
Cc: [Mladen Ivancic](#); [Philippa Mossman](#)
Subject: RE: Connecting Note - Lianne Dalziel (Mayor of Christchurch) | Stewart Till, CBE (Producer, They Are Us)
Date: Monday, 19 July 2021 11:45:11 a.m.
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[image009.jpg](#)
[image010.png](#)
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[image014.jpg](#)
[image015.png](#)
[image016.png](#)
[image017.png](#)
[image018.png](#)
[image019.png](#)
[image020.png](#)

Hi Ruth

For courtesy, noting that Mladen, Philippa and I would like to be dropped off this email chain as we will not be part of this meeting.

Many thanks

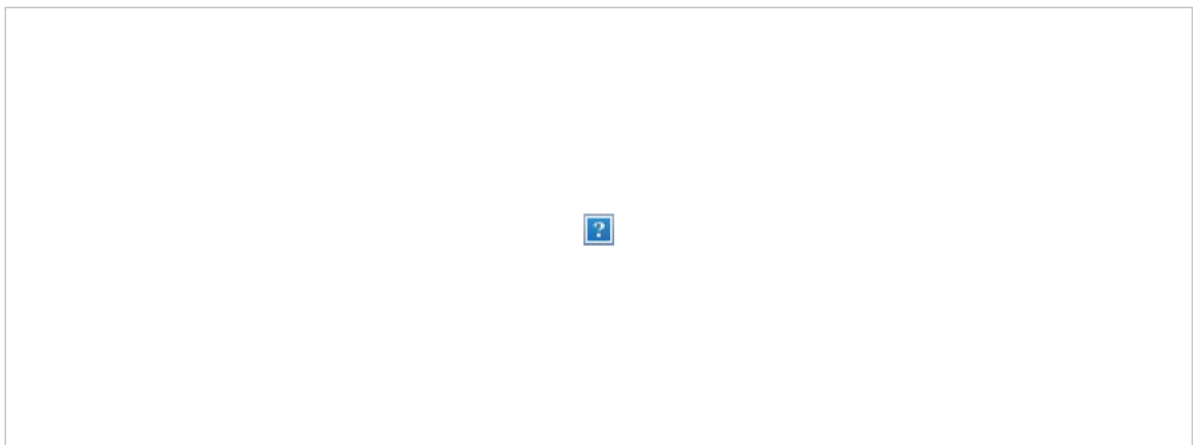
Chris

Chris Payne | Head of International Relations
New Zealand Film Commission | Te Tumu Whakaata Taonga
Level 3, 119 Ghuznee St, Wellington 6011 | PO Box 11546, Manners Street, Wellington 6142
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Please consider the environment before printing this email.



From: Close, Ruth [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 19 July 2021 11:37 a.m.
To: 'stewart till' [REDACTED]; Chris Payne <chris.payne@nzfilm.co.nz>
Cc: Mladen Ivancic <mladen.ivancic@nzfilm.co.nz>; Philippa Mossman <philippa.mossman@nzfilm.co.nz>

Subject: RE: Connecting Note - Lianne Dalziel (Mayor of Christchurch) | Stewart Till, CBE (Producer, They Are Us)

Dear Stewart

Many thanks for agreeing to talk to Lianne on this matter. She is keen to do this this week.

Looking at the time difference between New Zealand and Los Angeles, I am assuming the best time to do this would be between 8.00am and 12.00pm NZ time/ 1.00 – 5.00pm LA time. I expect 30 minutes would be sufficient for the call.

Lianne is available at the following times:

Tuesday 20 July (Monday 19 July in LA)

8.00 – 9.30am (1.00 – 2.30pm)

11.30am – 12.00pm (4.30 – 5.00pm)

Thursday 22 July (Wednesday 21 July)

8.00 – 9.30am (1.00 – 2.30pm)

11.30am – 12.00pm (4.30 – 5.00pm)

If none of these times work, she is also available at 1.30 – 2.00pm (6.30 – 7.00pm) on Tuesday and Thursday.

Please let me know what you prefer.

Kind regards

Ruth Close

Executive Assistant to the Mayor
Office of the Mayor and Chief Executive

—



[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]



Te Hononga Civic Offices, 53 Hereford Street, Christchurch



PO Box 73016, Christchurch 8154



ccc.govt.nz



From: stewart till [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, 19 July 2021 11:04 AM

To: Chris Payne <chris.payne@nzfilm.co.nz>

Cc: Close, Ruth [REDACTED]; Mladen Ivancic <mladen.ivancic@nzfilm.co.nz>; Philippa Mossman <philippa.mossman@nzfilm.co.nz>

Subject: Re: Connecting Note - Lianne Dalziel (Mayor of Christchurch) | Stewart Till, CBE (Producer, They Are Us)

Ruth,

Good morning.

Would you like to suggest a time, bearing in mind that I am based in LA, that is convenient for Lianne Dalziel?

Best wishes

Stewart

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 18, 2021, at 14:45, Chris Payne <chris.payne@nzfilm.co.nz> wrote:

Kia ora Ruth and Stewart

Further to separate engagement with each of you, this is an email to connect you both directly to arrange a Zoom/call between Lianne and Stewart in relation to *They Are Us*.

By way of brief background context:

Stewart Till, CBE is a Los Angeles-based British producer and executive with extensive experience across the film industry. Till's prior roles include serving as Chairman and Chief Executive of United International Pictures, Deputy Managing Director of British Sky Broadcasting's movie channels, President of PolyGram Filmed Entertainment's international distribution arm, President of Universal Pictures International (UPI), Chairman of Icon Productions UK and CEO of Sonar Entertainment. In 1999 he was appointed Vice Chairman of the UK Film Council (the predecessor to the current British Film Institute) and then in 2004 was appointed Chair. His filmography is available on [IMDB](#).

Ruth Close is Executive Assistant to Lianne Dalziel, Mayor of Christchurch. Lianne Dalziel is serving her third term as Mayor after serving for 23 years in the New Zealand Parliament, the last four terms as the Member of Parliament for Christchurch East. Lianne served for two and a half terms as a Cabinet Minister in the fifth Labour Government (1999 to 2008) under the leadership of Prime Minister Rt. Hon. Helen Clark. An extended bio for Lianne Dalziel is available on the [Christchurch City Council website](#).


Ngā mihi

Chris

From: [Philippa Mossman](#)
To: [Chris Payne](#); [Jasmin McSweeney](#)
Cc: [David Strong](#); [Mladen Ivancic](#)
Subject: RE: request from Mayor's office (10AM Newstalk slot)
Date: Monday, 19 July 2021 8:39:32 a.m.
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[image002.jpg](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.jpg](#)
[image005.png](#)

Sounds good, I'll let her know you'll be in touch Chris.


Thank you,
p

Philippa Mossman
NZFC


From: Chris Payne <chris.payne@nzfilm.co.nz>
Sent: Monday, 19 July 2021 8:36 a.m.
To: Jasmin McSweeney <jasmin.mcsweeney@nzfilm.co.nz>; Philippa Mossman <philippa.mossman@nzfilm.co.nz>
Cc: David Strong <david.strong@nzfilm.co.nz>; Mladen Ivancic <mladen.ivancic@nzfilm.co.nz>
Subject: Re: request from Mayor's office (10AM Newstalk slot)

Morning all

I sent the Mayor's EA an email on Friday late afternoon (cc Mladen and Philippa) to say that Stewart had acknowledged receipt of the request.

Stewart then emailed me on Saturday to say he was happy to engage. I'm going to email into the Mayor's EA and Stewart once I'm in the office. I'll call Jos  shortly to update her.

Cheers

Chris Payne
Head of International Relations
New Zealand Film Commission | Te Tumu Whakaata Taonga

From: Jasmin McSweeney <jasmin.mcsweeney@nzfilm.co.nz>
Sent: Monday, July 19, 2021 08:29
To: Philippa Mossman; Chris Payne
Cc: David Strong

Subject: Re: request from Mayor's office (10AM Newstalk slot)

I'm not across this conversation so Chris?

Jasmin McSweeney (she/her)
Head of Marketing
New Zealand Film Commission
[REDACTED]

iSent this from my iPhone

From: Philippa Mossman <philippa.mossman@nzfilm.co.nz>
Sent: Monday, July 19, 2021 8:28:21 AM
To: Chris Payne <chris.payne@nzfilm.co.nz>; Jasmin McSweeney <jasmin.mcsweeney@nzfilm.co.nz>
Cc: David Strong <david.strong@nzfilm.co.nz>
Subject: request from Mayor's office (10AM Newstalk slot)

Good morning!

I received a txt at 8.15am from Mayor Lianne Dalziel's Media Manager, Joss Ritchie.

“(Lianne) has a regular interview slot with Newstalk ZB at 10am this morning and they're going to ask her for an update on where she got to regarding 'They Are Us' movie. Is there any update following our phone conversation last week? Thanks”

Joss Ritchie = [REDACTED]

Jas/Chris – best for one of you to speak with Joss I am thinking? Please let me know so I can go back to her.

Philippa

Philippa Mossman | Head of International Attraction (she/her)
New Zealand Film Commission | Te Tumu Whakaata Taonga
Upper Ground Floor, Kauri Timber Building, 29 Graham Street, Auckland 1010
PO Box 11546, Manners Street, Wellington 6142

[REDACTED]
www.nzfilm.co.nz | ondemand.nzfilm.co.nz



From: [Jessica Allison-Batt](#)
To: [Chris Payne](#); [Gina Williamson](#)
Cc: [Mladen Ivancic](#); [Catherine Bates](#); [Philippa Mossman](#)
Subject: RE: they are PQs [IN-CONFIDENCE:RELEASE EXTERNAL] [IN-CONFIDENCE: RELEASE-EXTERNAL]
Date: Friday, 16 July 2021 1:50:17 p.m.
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image004.jpg](#)
[image009.jpg](#)
[image010.jpg](#)
[image011.jpg](#)
[image012.jpg](#)
[image014.jpg](#)

Thanks for the update Chris.

From: Chris Payne <chris.payne@nzfilm.co.nz>
Sent: Friday, 16 July 2021 1:41 PM
To: Gina Williamson <Gina.Williamson@mbie.govt.nz>; Jessica Allison-Batt <Jessica.Allison-Batt@mbie.govt.nz>
Cc: Mladen Ivancic <mladen.ivancic@nzfilm.co.nz>; Catherine Bates <catherine.bates@nzfilm.co.nz>; Philippa Mossman <philippa.mossman@nzfilm.co.nz>
Subject: RE: they are PQs [IN-CONFIDENCE:RELEASE EXTERNAL] [IN-CONFIDENCE: RELEASE-EXTERNAL]

Kia ora Gina and Jessica

Hope this finds you both well.

We understand Minister Sepuloni's office has been in touch with your Minister's office in relation to this already, but for completeness, noting for you both that we have determined the NZFC had initial engagement with the proposed feature film project, *They Are Us* in **May 2019**, rather than **November 2019** at the American Film Market (AFM) as previously understood.

The new initial engagement dates are:

7 May 2019

- Screen Australia CEO, Graeme Mason introduces Stewart Till to then NZFC CEO, Annabelle Sheehan over email, and there is email engagement re: setting up a phone call.

8 May 2019

- Stewart Till emails Annabelle Sheehan a PowerPoint presentation about *They Are Us* with email body text providing an outline of the project.

16 May 2019 (N.B. Cannes time zone)

- Annabelle Sheehan (in Cannes) has an introductory phone meeting with producer, Stewart Till (in Los Angeles).

17 May 2019

- Stewart Till emails Annabelle Sheehan to thank her for the meeting and Annabelle responds in turn.

Should you have any queries, please feel free to contact either me or Sarah Tebbs (Acting Private Secretary – Arts, Culture and Heritage).

Noho ora mai

Chris

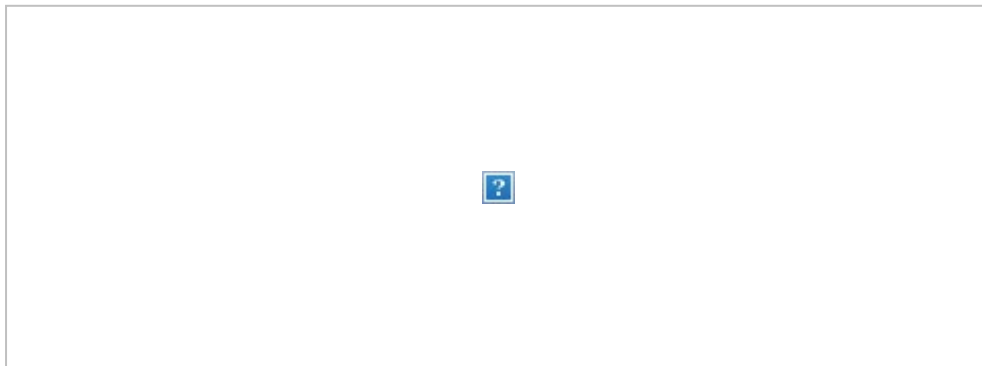
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From: Jessica Allison-Batt <Jessica.Allison-Batt@mbie.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 7 July 2021 2:58 p.m.
To: Chris Payne <chris.payne@nzfilm.co.nz>
Cc: Mladen Ivancic <mladen.ivancic@nzfilm.co.nz>; Catherine Bates <catherine.bates@nzfilm.co.nz>; Philippa Mossman <philippa.mossman@nzfilm.co.nz>; Gina Williamson <Gina.Williamson@mbie.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: they are PQs [IN-CONFIDENCE:RELEASE EXTERNAL] [IN-CONFIDENCE: RELEASE-EXTERNAL]

Thanks for the information Chris, just copying in Gina for her information as well,

Cheers,

Jessica Allison-Batt

From: Chris Payne <chris.payne@nzfilm.co.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, 7 July 2021 2:51 PM
To: Jessica Allison-Batt <Jessica.Allison-Batt@mbie.govt.nz>
Cc: Mladen Ivancic <mladen.ivancic@nzfilm.co.nz>; Catherine Bates

<catherine.bates@nzfilm.co.nz>; Philippa Mossman <philippa.mossman@nzfilm.co.nz>

Subject: RE: they are PQs [IN-CONFIDENCE:RELEASE EXTERNAL]

Kia ora Jess

This is a courtesy note to advise that, following a further review of our files, we have now determined that the NZFC had initial engagement with the producers of *They Are Us* in late October 2019, rather than March 2020 as previously communicated.

These records show that Andrew Niccol, Stewart Till and former CEO, Annabelle Sheehan corresponded via email on 30 & 31 October 2019 to set up an in-person meeting, which was held in Los Angeles on 9 November 2019 (Los Angeles time) in the margins of the American Film Market (AFM).

Neither of the NZFC staff involved with that correspondence and meeting—specifically Annabelle Sheehan and her EA—continue to work for the NZFC, so they have not been involved in the NZFC's provision of information in respect of the organisation's engagement with *They Are Us*.

Furthermore, this additional correspondence and meeting do not reference *They Are Us*, and as such this material was not located in our initial search of our electronic files; it has since been located manually and we are advising you of this for completeness.

For the avoidance of doubt, we're also advising the Deputy Chief Executive of MCH, the Private Secretary to the Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage and NZFC Chair, Dame Kerry Prendergast of this.

Ngā mihi

Chris

Chris Payne | Chief Operating Officer (Acting) & Head of International Relations

New Zealand Film Commission | Te Tumu Whakaata Taonga

Level 3, 119 Ghuznee St, Wellington 6011 | PO Box 11546, Manners Street, Wellington 6142

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Please consider the environment before printing this email.

From: [stewart till](#)
To: [Chris Payne](#)
Subject: Re: They Are Us - Official Information Act - Requests for Information
Date: Saturday, 17 July 2021 2:21:19 p m.

Chris,

Absolutely.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 16, 2021, at 18:58, Chris Payne <chris.payne@nzfilm.co.nz> wrote:

Hi Stewart

Thanks for confirming this.

In terms of process, are you happy for me to send an email connecting the Mayor's EA with you to arrange the call/Zoom?

All best

Chris

<!--[if !vml]-->

<[image002.jpg](#)>

<!--[endif]-->Chris Payne | Head of International Relations

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<[image006.png](#)>

From: Stewart Till [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 17 July 2021 10:51 a.m.
To: Chris Payne <chris.payne@nzfilm.co.nz>
Subject: Re: They Are Us - Official Information Act - Requests for Information
Importance: High

Hi Chris,

I am very happy on behalf of the Producers, to engage with The Mayor of Christchurch, Lianne Dalziel.

I would suggest we have a phone or zoom call at a time that is convenient.

Best

Stewart

On Jul 14, 2021, at 9:02 PM, Chris Payne <chris.payne@nzfilm.co.nz> wrote:

Hi Stewart

Just to clarify re: the highlighted portion – are you happy to engage with the Mayor of Christchurch, and if so, what is your preferred approach with respect to initial engagement?

All best

Chris

[<image007.jpg>](#)Chris Payne | Chief Operating Officer (Acting) & Head of International Relations

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[<image011.jpg>](#)

From: Chris Payne

Sent: Wednesday, 14 July 2021 11:36 a.m.

To: 'stewart till' [REDACTED]

Cc: Jasmin McSweeney <jasmin.mcsweeney@nzfilm.co.nz>

Subject: RE: They Are Us - Official Information Act - Requests for Information

Hi Stewart

I hope all's well.

This email addresses two considerations:

1. [REDACTED]
2. Mayor of Christchurch Request for Engagement

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Mayor of Christchurch Request for Engagement

We have recently been approached by the [Mayor of Christchurch, Lianne Dalziel](#) who wishes to speak with the producers of *They Are Us* from the perspective of Christchurch City.

Noting that you and former *They Are Us* NZ producer, Philippa Campbell were specified as contacts for government in the backgrounder document we prepared to accompany the embargoed press release, and which we provided to the *They Are Us* team for review, we felt that you would be the most appropriate person to engage with Lianne Dalziel, should you and the wider filmmaking team wish to do so.

Grateful for your guidance on this, and if you do wish to engage, your preferred method for doing so (e.g. for me to on-supply an email from Lianne Dalziel with her contact details for you to follow-up directly, or otherwise.)

All best

Chris

[<image009.jpg>](#) Chris Payne | Chief Operating Officer (Acting) & Head of International Relations

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