

13 July 2023

## 5 JULY 2023: OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

In your email dated 5 July 2023 you requested information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). Answers to your specific questions are set out below.


1. *Did the NZ Film Commission send any representatives to the Shanghai Film Festival?*
  - *If yes, how many members of staff attended the event? And what are their positions/job titles within the NZ Film Commission?*
  - *Please provide hard-copy receipts of staff who attended this trip submitted as part of their expenses for the duration of the trip.*
  - *Please also provide the invoices for plane tickets and accommodation.*
  - *Please also provide the details and cost of any gifts bought and taken to the festival and for whom they were intended.*

The New Zealand Film Commission (NZFC) did not send any representatives to the Shanghai Film Festival in 2023.

2. *Does the NZFC pay any form of subscription/make contributions to the Belt and Road Film Alliance?*
  - *If so, how much was paid for the last calendar year, and how much has been paid this year between January and June?*
  - *How long has the NZFC been a member of the Belt and Road Film Alliance?*

The NZFC does not pay for any subscriptions or make contributions to the Belt and Road Film Alliance. The NZFC signed an MOU with the Belt and Road Film Alliance in June 2018, however, NZFC staff have not participated in-person in any Belt and Road Film Alliance activity for many years. The NZFC's involvement has been limited to liaising with festival programmers on suggestions for NZ films to screen as part of the Belt and Road Film Week, held annually as part of the Shanghai International Film Festival.

3. *How much has the Interactive Development Fund allocated to the following projects:*
  - *Guardian Maia, Shelflife, Adaptors, Toroa, Coking Rodeo, Visualiser and Corporeal.*
  - *Why were these projects selected?*
  - *How many applicants did the fund have?*
  - *How much was spent on advertising the fund, and how was it advertised?*
  - *Why was the decision taken to create the fund?*



The NZFC awarded the following amounts via the Whakawhanake Te Ao Niko Interactive Development Fund (IDF) in October 2022:

*Guardian Maia:* \$50,000

*Shelflife:* \$50,000

*Adaptory:* \$50,000

*Toroa:* \$50,000

*Coking Rodeo:* \$49,989

*Visualiser:* \$41,950

*Corporeal:* \$25,000

Applications to the fund were assessed by a panel comprising international and New Zealand industry professionals and NZFC staff. These projects were selected as they met the key criteria outlined in the IDF guidelines and scored high in the assessment scoring criteria. Note that NZFC funding decisions are discretionary – that is, the NZFC chooses where best to award limited funding available and all decisions are final. Criteria for funds are clearly laid out in the funding guidelines and decisions are consistent with guidelines and the New Zealand Film Commission Act 1978.

The October 2022 round of IDF had 22 applications submitted.

The October 2022 round of IDF was advertised through NZFC social media and the NZFC website. There were no costs associated with advertising the fund.

IDF was created to support the development of interactive storytelling in Aotearoa through a diverse range of project types, styles and scales. The fund encourages collaboration between sectors, developing new skills and synergies. Through the development of new, innovative, interactive stories and content, it is intended that potential new markets and audiences will be identified, developed and engaged. The fund supports concept development of original interactive content with strong narrative development. This includes screen-based media such as games, virtual reality, augmented reality, and mixed reality. The fund aligns with the NZFC's strategic goal to facilitate dynamic pathways for outstanding people, projects and businesses.

Note that we will be publishing this letter (with your personal information removed) on the NZFC website.

Please be aware that you have the right, by way of complaint to an Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the OIA to seek an investigation and review of our response.

Kind regards



Tayla Hancock

**Senior Policy Advisor**

**New Zealand Film Commission**

