



16 December 2024

18 NOVEMBER 2024: OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

In your email dated 18 November 2024 you requested the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):


I refer to the report in today's media in response to recent criticism that the Commission is a waste of money. See https://www.thepost.co.nz/culture/360485054/why-international-missions-are-critical-nz-film-commission?cx_testId=3&cx_testVariant=cx_1&cx_artPos=4&utm_source=localised_module_the_post&utm_medium=referral#cxrecs_s

Specifically, the following paragraph caught our attention about the Cannes market: Murray personally had nearly 100 meetings in 10 days: "It's running from one to the next. It's absolutely punishing and exhausting ... There is no time for hobnobbing over there. We work flat out ... then straight back on a plane and home again. Two of us arrived back sick. It's burnout kind of scheduling. But that's what we need to do to get the work done to make the connections."

Please provide a list of the "nearly 100" meetings referred to. Please include the specific date/time of each meeting, venue, and who each meeting was with. Please also provide the flight information just so that we can confirm the accuracy of the Commission's claim.

A diary for New Zealand Film Commission (NZFC) delegates attending the Cannes Film Market was provided to [REDACTED] in a response to request for information on 3 September 2024. This response is publicly available on the NZFC website: [Requests for Official Information](#).

The four NZFC delegates who travelled to the Cannes Film Market visited London from 8 to 10 May 2024 to engage with the UK film industry and explore opportunities for collaboration, promote co-productions and to strengthen connections with UK-based filmmaking talent with a focus on creating opportunities for New Zealanders. The quote referenced in the article includes meetings from the time at the Cannes Film Market and London.



Please find attached at **Appendix 1** meetings from our Chief Executive's diary in London. While attending events such as the Cannes Film Market and London, there are a wide range of events, meetings and discussions that take place. In short, our team:

- Books relevant meetings in advance and add them to our teams' calendars, and this is the list we provided in our response to the Taxpayers Union on 3 September and at **Appendix 1**.
- Schedules additional meetings during the visit, many of which are not formally added to dairies as they are either ad hoc, or organised at very short notice.
- Attends events where there are many people and companies present. Again, while the event might be in diaries, the details of who our team have met with are not, and this makes it difficult to provide a complete list.

Gathering information for these two latter types of meeting requires substantial collation or research and as such, we have not provided it at this time under section 18(f) of the OIA.

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

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.

Yours sincerely

Tayla Hancock

Tayla Hancock
Senior Advisor, Policy and Performance
New Zealand Film Commission



8 May 2024		May 2024							June 2024						
Wednesday		Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		5	6	7	1	2	3	4	2	3	4	5	6	7	1
		12	13	14	8	9	10	11	9	10	11	12	13	14	8
		19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
									30						
	WEDNESDAY														
	8														
6 A.M.	5.55am: [AM/CP/HW] land in London														
7															
8															
9															
10															
11	11am [CP/AM/PM] Con Gornell Coffee Meeting WatchHouse - Somerset House, Strand, London, WC2R 1LA														
12 P.M.															
1	1pm [AM/CP] Juliet Dowling & Marilyn Milgrom, Essential Cinema Strand Palace Hotel lobby														
2															
3															
4	4pm: High Commissioner Phil Goff NZ High Commission, 1 Pall Mall (10 min walk from Strand Palace)														
5															
6	6.00pm George Fenwick and Jonny Mahon-Heap [N.B. context/bios in meeting body & attached] The Gin Palace (372 Strand, London, Greater London, WC2R 0JJ, United Kingdom)														

9 May 2024

Thursday

May 2024							June 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4							1
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
							30						

	THURSDAY
	9
6 ^{A.M.}	
7	7am - 8.30am: NZ Online Meetings
8	HW NB. Allpress Coffee delivery due into Cannes Thursday/Friday TBC
9	9.30am Lucas Webb (VP, Development - Working Title) Working Title Films Ltd. (26 Aybrook Street, London, Greater London, W1U 4AN, United Kingdom)
10	10.10am: Patrick Fischer (Co-Founder/Managing Director) & Richard Kondal (Co-Founder/Director) - Creativity Capital (Finance) / Big Safari (Production) / Architect (Sales) Watchhouse (34 New Cavendish St 32, London, Xgl, W1G 8UE, United Kingdom)
11	11am [AM, CP others optional] Meeting with Ingenious - Christelle Conan, Peter Touche, Matthew Grasso Parcels Building, 14 Bird Street, London, W1U 1BU
12 ^{P.M.}	LUNCH TBA
1	1:15pm [AM/CP/PM] Andrea Scarso, IPR.VC 77 New Cavendish Street (77 New Cavendish Street, London, England, W1W 6, United Kingdom)
2	12 min drive with tolls / 19 min walk
3	15 min walk back to Strand Palace/8 min cab with tolls
4	4pm: Carla McGilchrist (Senior Production Finance Manager, Comedy & Drama - Channel4) Strand Palace Hotel (372 Strand, London, Greater London, WC2R 0JJ, United Kingdom)
5	Final Event Prep New Zealand High Commission, Kinnaird House, 1 Pall Mall East, London SW1Y 5AU
6	6PM NZFC London Networking Event [all details in meeting body and attached] New Zealand High Commission, Kinnaird House, 1 Pall Mall East, London SW1Y 5AU

10 May 2024

Friday

May 2024							June 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
5	6	7	1	2	3	4	2	3	4	5	6	7	1
12	13	14	8	9	10	11	9	10	11	12	13	14	8
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
							30						

	FRIDAY
	10
6 A.M.	
7	7am - 8.30am: NZ Online Meetings
8	
9	9am: [AM/CP] Kate Charles, Kowhai Limited Strand Palace Hotel (372 Strand, London, Greater London, WC2R 0JJ, United Kingdom)
10	10.30am Ed Clarke - Oakheart Films (Executive Producer / Producer / Senior Creative Executive) Meet in lobby of Strand Palace and find a spot for a coffee (potentially at Ole and Steen with Scandi pastries)
11	11.30am: Emily Barttelot (Associate Producer) - Catalyst Global Media Strand Palace Hotel (372 Strand, London, Greater London, WC2R 0JJ, United Kingdom)
12 P.M.	14min drive to Granary Square
1	12.30pm: Lunch with Camilla Deakin & Ruth Fielding, Co-Founders, Lupus Film Granary Square Brassiere, 1 Granary Square
2	Chris / Ann-Marie Microsoft Teams Meeting
3	2:45pm [AM/CP/PM/HW] Travel to airport
3	3.45pm [AM/CP/PM/HW] Recommended check in
4	
5	
6	5.45pm [AM/CP/PM/HW] BA356 to Nice (arrives 8.50pm)