

The Impact of Allegations on Winston Peter's Ability to Undertake His Role as Foreign Minister

"New Zealand First has recently been facing a number of allegations about political donations and the use of secret trust accounts. The party's leader Winston Peters, who is also Foreign Minister, has denied any wrongdoing and says the Party's funding has been handled lawfully. Regardless of whether you support New Zealand First, which of the following statements best sums up your opinion on whether this has affected Mr Peters' ability to carry out his role as Foreign Minister."

	9-14 August 2008
It has affected his ability to a high degree	27%
It has had some impact on his ability to do the job	37%
It has made no difference to him doing the job	32%
Don't Know	5%
TOTAL	101%*

Base: n=1,009 Eligible New Zealander Voters, 9th – 14th August, 2008 *Total does not sum exactly due to rounding

- New Zealanders have varying opinions about whether the allegations about political donations and secret trust accounts received by New Zealand First have affected Winston Peters' ability to carry out his role as Foreign Minister. A quarter (27%) say it has affected his ability to a high degree, one in four (37%) say it has had some impact on his ability and one in three (32%) say it has made no difference to his ability to carry out his role as Foreign Minister. In total, 63% of New Zealanders say that it has affected his ability to at least some degree
- 5% of the population are unsure
- Those who believe that the allegations have affected his ability to a high degree are more likely to be:
 - Middle aged New Zealanders (35-54 year olds, at 33%)
 - Males (30%) (Females are more likely to say it has had "some impact" on his ability)
 - National voters (34%)
- Those more likely to say it has made no difference to him doing the job are more likely to be:
 - Older New Zealanders (over 55 years old, at 36%)
 - Labour voters (38%)