



19-D-01551

s 9(2)(a)

@fedfarm.org.nz

Dear s 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 24 July 2019 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- 1) *All information provided to the offices of Minister Parker and/or Minister O'Connor on the costs and benefits or economic impacts of the Essential Freshwater programme.*
- 2) *Any internal or cross-departmental briefings containing cost benefit or economic analysis information related to the Essential Freshwater programme*

Clarification of scope

We discussed the scope of your requests with you (and your colleague Ewan Kelsall) by both email and phone. During these communications, we clarified the scope as:

The time period of 1 January 2018-24 July 2019.

Not relating to information on freshwater allocation.

The Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry) also interpreted the scope of this request as including information such as reports and briefings but excluding purely administrative communications.

On part 1 of your request

The Ministry is satisfied that all relevant information related to the costs, benefits and economic impacts of the Essential Freshwater Programme provided to the offices of Minister Parker and/or Minister O'Connor has been publicly released as part of the consultation process on 5 September 2019.

The Ministry has therefore decided to refuse this request under the following section of the Act:

S18(d) The information is, or soon will be, publicly available.

This information can be found at: www.mfe.govt.nz/consultation/action-for-healthy-waterways

On part 2 of your request

The Ministry has identified a number of briefings containing cost benefit or economic analysis information related to the Essential Freshwater programme. These briefings are in the process of being proactively released. The Ministry will contact you when this process is complete.

The Ministry has therefore decided to refuse this request under the following section of the Act:

S18(d) The information is, or soon will be, publicly available.

Once published, these briefings will be located at: www.mfe.govt.nz/briefings-search

Opportunity to review this decision

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman of my decision to refusing this request, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on their website at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Please note that due to the public interest in our work the Ministry for the Environment will publish responses to most of our requests for official information on our web site on our OIA responses page shortly after the response has been sent to you: www.mfe.govt.nz/about-us/official-information-act-requests.

If you have any queries about this, please feel free to contact our Executive Relations team.

Yours sincerely



Katherine Meerman
Director, Water

Released under the provisions of
the Official Information Act 1982

List of documents

Document No.	Document Date	Content	Decision	OIA Section/s applied (if withholding information)	Reason for refusing
1	31-Jul-19	Report of the Freshwater Leaders Group to the Minister for the Environment. July 2019	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
2	30-Jun-19	Freshwater Science and Technical Advisory Group report to the Minister for the Environment - June 2019	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
3	13-Sep-19	Te Mana o te Wai - Kāhui Wai Māori report to Hon Minister David Parker. April 2019	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
4	14-Sep-19	Regional Sector Water Subgroup advice to the Minister for the Environment. July 2019	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
5	30-Jun-19	Identification of high-risk agricultural activities: national mapping of the location, scale and extent of winter forage cropping and intensive grazing on hill country land	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
6	30-Jun-19	Sediment load reductions to meet suspended and deposited sediment thresholds	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
7	30-Jun-19	Deriving potential fine sediment attribute thresholds for the National Objectives Framework	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
8	31-May-18	Development of ecosystem health bottom-line thresholds for suspended and deposited sediment in New Zealand rivers and streams	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
9	31-Aug-19	Impact testing of proposed sediment attribute: identifying erosion and sediment control interventions to meet proposed sediment attribute bottom lines and the costs and benefits of those interventions.	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
10	30-Jun-18	A review of New Zealand studies into the cost of degradation of freshwater ecosystems	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.

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11	30-Jun-18	A review of integrated assessment frameworks for environmental management	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
12	30-Aug-19	Impact of current NOF periphyton attribute and proposed DIN bottom line	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
13	30-Jun-19	Modelling of mitigation strategies on farm profitability testing Ag package regulations on farm	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
14	30-Jun-19	Modelling the impact of freshwater mitigation scenarios: results for the Ruamahanga catchment	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
15	30-Aug-19	Interim RIS for Essential Freshwater Part I	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
16	30-Aug-19	Interim RIS for Essential Freshwater Part II	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
17	23-Nov-18	2018-B-04987 Proposed sediment policy package	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
18	2-Nov-18	2018-B-05038 Rural package - Improving farming practices and managing intensification of rural land use.	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
19	12-Nov-18	2018-B-04915 Avoiding further loss and degradation of wetlands	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
20	27-Nov-18	2018-B-04993 National direction on urban water	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
21	28-Nov-18	2018-B-05025 Addressing the impact of copper and zinc on aquatic ecosystems	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
22	31-Jul-18	2018-B-05123 Managing all aspects of Ecosystem Health	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon

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23	17-Jan-19	2018-B-05194 Addressing estuaries & sensitive downstream environments	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
24	26-Mar-19	2019-B-05416 Assisting Councils to Implement the NPS/FM	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
25	8-Apr-19	2019-B-05468 A new planning process for the NPS - FM note to support a meeting with officials 11 April	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
26	12-Apr-19	2019-B-05474 Seeking agreement to national direction proposals (paper 1 of 3)	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
27	18-Apr-19	2019-B-05475 Seeking agreement to national direction proposals (paper 2 of 3)	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
28	18-Apr-19	2019-B-05440 Seeking agreement to National direction for Rural Land use	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
29	12-Oct-18	2018-M-01982 Horticulture NZ Memo NPS-FM Implementation Concerns (memo)	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
30	21-Sep-18	2018-B-04876 Meeting with Irrigation NZ 26 Sept 2018	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
31	17-Aug-18	2018-B-04731 Work Programme update: "Essential Freshwater"	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
32	31-Jul-18	2018-B-04714 Review of drinking water source protection regulations: key findings and direction of further work	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
33	9-May-19	2019-B-05576 Recommendations on Outstanding Policy Options for National Direction on Rural Land Use	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.

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34	10-Jun-19	2019-B-05684 Consent requirements in the rural package	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
35	21-Jun-19	2019-B-05719 Maori values and measures of freshwater health: Seeking agreement to consult on options	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
36	27-Jun-19	2019-B-05732 Final reports of Advisory Groups and draft cabinet materials	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
37	8-Jul-19	2019-B-05769 Draft cabinet materials for ministerial and cross-party consultation	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.
38	22-Jul-19	2019-B-05813 Updated draft cabinet package	Refused	S18(d)	The information is, or will soon be, publicly available.

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