

19-D-02368

s 9(2)(a)

Dear s 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 8 October 2019 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

“Could you please advise whether or not other Ministries and government agencies were fully consulted in preparing the proposed N.P.S [for Urban Development [sic]]. Should they have been consulted could you please provide their responses in full”.

On 22 October 2019, you confirmed your request was for:

“all formal consultation between Crown Agencies on the proposed NPS-UD.”

The Ministry for the Environment has identified 12 documents in scope of your request, as listed in the attached table. Some information within these documents has been withheld under the following sections of the Act:

- 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons
- 9(2)(f)(iv) to maintain the constitutional conventions, for the time being, which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.

In terms of section 9(1) of the Act, I am satisfied that, in the circumstances, the withholding of this information is not outweighed by other considerations that render it desirable to make the information available in the public interest.

Some out of scope information has also been removed from the documents being released to you, and we have only provided formal consultation as agreed with you on 22 October 2019.

Much of the formal cross-agency consultation on the proposed National Policy Statement on Urban Development (NPS-UD) was via agency comments on briefings to Ministers. We have also provided you with copies of these documents for your information.

We hope this information assures you that the Ministry for the Environment, working in partnership with the Ministry for Housing and Urban Development on this policy project, has developed and will continue to develop the NPS-UD in consultation with other Crown Agencies.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman of my decision to withhold information relating to 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 publishes responses to requests for official information on our OIA responses page (<https://www.mfe.govt.nz/about-us/official-information-act-requests>) shortly after the response has been sent.

If you have any queries about this, please feel free to contact our Executive Relations team at ministerials@mfe.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely



Lesley Baddon
Director – Urban and Infrastructure

Released under the provisions of
the Official Information Act 1982

List of documents

| Document no. | Document date | Content | Decisions | OIA sections applied |
|--------------|-------------------------------|---|-----------------|------------------------|
| 001 | 06 June – 11 June 2018 | Cross Agency Comments on Briefing note: 2018-B-04566 Urban Growth Agenda: Urban Planning Pillar - proposed approach and next steps for national policy direction on quality intensification | Release in part | 9(2)(a) |
| 002 | 14 June 2018 | 2018-B-04566 Urban Growth Agenda: Urban Planning Pillar - proposed approach and next steps for national policy direction on quality intensification | Release in full | |
| 003 | 24 September | Meeting notes - Cross-agency meeting 24 September 2018 | Release in full | |
| 004 | 17 - 24 October 2018 | Cross Agency Comments on Briefing note: 2018-B-05003 Recommended package of national direction on quality intensification | Release in part | 9(2)(a) 9(2)(f)(iv) |
| 005 | 26 October 2018 | Briefing note: 2018-B-05003 Recommended package of national direction on quality intensification | Release in part | 9(2)(f)(iv) |
| 006 | 14 November | Quality Intensification minutes 14 Nov | Release in full | |
| 007 | 15 November | Cross agency engagement 15 Nov | Release in part | 9(2)(f)(iv) |
| 008 | 29 November – 3 December 2019 | Cross Agency Comments on 2018-B-05074 National direction on quality intensification – detailed policy proposals | Release in part | 9(2)(a) 9(2)(f)(iv) |
| 009 | 6 December 2018 | 2018-B-05074 National direction on quality intensification – detailed policy proposals | Release in part | 9(2)(f)(iv) |
| 010 | 19 June 2019 | 2019-B-05622 Material for Ministerial Consultation on the proposed National Policy Statement on Urban Development | Release in full | |
| 011 | 19 June – 16 July 2019 | Cross-agency comments on draft National Policy Statement package | Release in part | 9(2)(a) |
| 012 | 27 September 2019 | 20190927 NPS-UD Officials Workshop | Release in part | 9(2)(a) |

Note: due to file size please email ministerials@mfe.govt.nz for copies of the documents released