



20 December 2024

OIAD-1330

9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 18 November 2024 refining your request to be for the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) from the Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry):

Correspondence (excluding administrative correspondence) regarding the Ministry's development of the publicly available "Officials response to Independent Advisor Reports"

We have identified 11 emails in scope of your refined request for correspondence, as outlined in the below document table. I am releasing one document to you in full, withholding six documents in full to maintain legal professional privilege, and releasing the remaining four documents to you in part. Information is withheld or refused in accordance with the following sections of the Act:

9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons.

9(2)(h) to maintain legal professional privilege.

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.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman of my decision 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](#) shortly after the response has been sent. If you have any queries about this, please feel free to contact our Ministerial Services team: ministerials@mfe.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā

Jo Gascoigne
General Manager, Resource Management System
Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao

Document table

No.	Date	Content	Decision	OIA Section/s applied
1	14 August 2024	Gerard Willis independent adviser report	Release in part	9(2)(a)
2	14 August 2024	Panel remuneration - Gerard Willis independent adviser report	Withhold in full	9(2)(h)
3	14 August 2024	Gerard Willis independent adviser report	Withhold in full	9(2)(h)
4	14 August 2024	Panel remuneration - Gerard Willis independent adviser report	Release in part	9(2)(a)
5	15 August 2024	Independent Expert reports	Withhold in full	9(2)(h)
6	16 August 2024	[9(2)(h)]	Withhold in full	9(2)(h)
7	19 August 2024	Further advice	Withhold in full	9(2)(h)
8	16 August 2024	[9(2)(h)]	Withhold in full	9(2)(h)
9	21 August 2024	Main themes for Thurs SC	Release in part	9(2)(a)
10	21 August 2024	DOC content – pack for select committee	Release in part	9(2)(a)
11	14 August 2024	Pack for SC	Release in full	N/A