

OIAD-1407

10 February 2025

9(2)(a)

Dear 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 28 November 2024 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

I request the following information:

1. All documents, briefings, reports, memos, emails, and advice relating to the Carbon Neutral Government Programme (CNGP) from 1 January 2024 to the present.

2. Any updates or reviews of the CNGP goals, particularly those related to the 2025 carbon neutrality target.

3. Details on any public consultations, stakeholder engagements, or inter-agency communications about the programme in the past year.

On 14 January 2025, you refined part one of your request to:

1a. All advice to Ministers regarding the CNGP (including emails) 1b. All papers to MfE's leadership team regarding the CNGP 1c. All cabinet papers regarding the CNGP

On 17 January 2025, the Ministry extended the timeframes in response to your request under section 15A(1)(b) of the Act, as consultations necessary to make a decision on the inscope information were such that a proper response couldn't reasonably be made within the original time limit.

In response to part 1a, there are seven documents in scope. Three documents are released in part with information withheld under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act, to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.

Three documents are released in full and one document is withheld in full under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act.

In response to parts 1b and 1c, these are refused under section 18(e) of the Act, as the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist as no Cabinet papers have been submitted to Cabinet and no papers were submitted to the Ministry's leadership teams.

In response to part 2, there are two documents in scope and are released in part with some information withheld under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act.

In response to part 3, there are 13 documents in scope. One document is released in part with some information withheld under section 9(2)(k) of the Act, to prevent the disclose or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage. The information withheld are links to join re-occurring Teams meetings.

The remaining 12 documents are released in full.

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 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 <u>OIA responses page</u> shortly after the response has been sent. If you have any queries about this, please feel free to contact our Ministerial Services team: <u>ministerials@mfe.govt.nz</u>.

Yours sincerely

K. Mackie

Kathleen Mackie General Manager – Strategy, Planning & Performance Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao

Document schedule

Document no.	Document date	Content	Decisions	OIA sections applied
1	5/2/2024	BRF-4099 Progress update on the Carbon Neutral Government Programme	Release in Part	9(2)(f)(iv)
2	21/3/2024	Email: RE:BRF- 4099 Progress update on the Carbon Neutral Government Programme	Release in Full	
3	25/7/2024	BRF-3950: Briefing the 2025 neutrality goal of the Carbon Neutral Government Programme and reviewing programme settings	Release in Part	9(2)(f)(iv)
4	26/7/2024	Email: RE: BRF-3950 Removing the 2025 neutrality goal of the Carbon Government Programme	Release in Full	
5	4/11/2024	Email: RE: BRF-5494 Pathways for the Carbon Neutral Government Programme's Neutrality Goal	Release in Part	9(2)(f)(iv)
6	31/10/2024	BRF 5494: Pathways for the Carbon Neutral Government Programme's Neutrality Goal	Withheld in Full	9(2)(f)(iv)
7	12/9/2024	Email: Update and short	Release in Full	

		survey on the Carbon Neutral Government Programme		
8	10/10/2024	BRF-5004: Policy direction of the Carbon Neutral Government Programme	Release in Part	9(2)(f)(iv)
9	15/10/2024	Email: BRF- 5004 Policy direction of the Carbon Neutral Government Programme	Release in Full	
10	12/3/2024	CNGP: 2023 Results Preview	Release in Full	
11	25/3/2024	CNGP: March Update	Release in Full	
12	15/5/2024	CNGP: May Update	Release in Full	
13	1/7/2024	Request for Cost Information for Ministerial Advice	Release in Full	
14	29/7/2024	July CNGP Newsletter	Release in Full	
15	12/8/2024	Email: Consultation on commuter survey resources	Release in Part	9(2)(k)
16	12/9/2024	Update and short survey on the Carbon Neutral Government Programme	Release in Full	
17	13/9/2024	RE: CNGP Senior Leader Survey	Release in Full	
18	19/9/2024	Report to the CNGP	Release in Full	
19	24/9/2024	Feedback on the Carbon Neutral	Release in Full	

		Government Programme		
20	8/10/2024	Email: October CNGP newsletter	Release in Full	
21	31/10/2024	Email: CNGP Reporting "PLEASE READ"	Release in Full	
22	27/11/2024	Email: CNGP reporting	Release in Full	