



31 January 2025

OIAD-1456

9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your correspondence of 18 December 2024 to the Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry) about the United Nations' New Urban Agenda (NUA). We have interpreted your request for the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- a. *A copy (or link) of any monitoring report that the NZ government has produced on the New Urban Agenda or relevant SDGs (we are aware that not all of them may have been uploaded on to the UN Habitat website)*
- b. *Whether and when it is intended to update any earlier report already submitted*
- c. *Any barriers to meeting the 2025 deadline for the next round of NUA monitoring reports, including professional capacity*

The Ministry acknowledges the significance of the United Nations' New Urban Agenda (NUA) and the importance of monitoring progress toward its goals. Regular reporting is a valuable tool for transparency, accountability, and alignment with global commitments, particularly Sustainable Development Goal 11.

The Government is currently focusing on core priorities and critical projects in the housing space, such as the Going for Housing Growth programme and updating National Direction. It has not signalled any plans to produce or update any reports on the NUA, and the Ministry is not aware of any plans to do so for Sustainable Development Goal 11 or any other relevant Sustainable Development Goals. This includes the next round of optional NUA reporting that you have cited in the third point of your request.

The Ministry continues to gather reports and data on housing, such as:

- Nationwide Building Consent data
- Urban policy documents
- District plans showing zoning and urban density
- Council strategic development frameworks and spatial plans
- Council Housing and Business development capacity Assessments (HBAs)
- State of the Environment Reports.

We also maintain a register of evidential reports on housing, urban growth, sustainable urban development, smart growth, spatial planning, transport, mobility, and urban intensification. A number of these reports and data are available on the Ministry's website at <https://environment.govt.nz/>.

I have identified one document in scope of the first point of your request. The previous Government produced “*The People’s Report on the 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals*” in 2019. I am refusing this report under section 18(d) of the Act as it is already publicly available at [https://www.sdg.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Final\\_PeopleReport-2019-Dec-2019\\_for-web.pdf](https://www.sdg.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Final_PeopleReport-2019-Dec-2019_for-web.pdf).

I am refusing the second and third points of your request under section 18(g) of the Act as the information requested is not held by the Ministry and we have no grounds for believing that the information is held by another department or connected more closely with the functions of another department.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman of my decisions 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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

Please note that due to the public interest in our work, MfE 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](mailto:ministerials@mfe.govt.nz).

Nāku noa, nā



**Martyn Pinckard**

General Manager – Urban and Infrastructure  
Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao