



28 July 2025

OIAD-1655

9(2)(a) [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

Tēnā koe 9(2)(a) [redacted]

Thank you for your email of 23 June 2025 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) of the Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry):

Under the OIA, I request copies of all materials prepared for the following Ministers for their Estimates Hearing appearances before the Environment Committee • The Minister for the Environment • The Minister for Climate Change • The Minister Responsible for RMA Reform • The Associate Minister for the Environment Where a document that falls under the scope of this request cannot be released, please supply a summary of that document's contents. Where any document falls under the scope of this request, please release it in full, including sections which might otherwise be considered out of scope.

On 21 July 2025, the Ministry advised that the timeframe for providing a response to your request had been extended by five working days under section 15A(1)(b) of the Act, as consultations necessary to make a decision on the request were such that a proper response could not reasonably be made within the original timeframe.

I have interpreted your request as being for finalised versions of materials provided to Ministers to support their attendance at the 2025/26 Estimates Hearings.

I have identified 13 documents in scope of your request, as listed in the document schedule below.

I am releasing 10 documents to you in full. I am releasing three documents to you in part, with some information withheld under the following sections of the Act:

- 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.
- 9(2)(g)(i) to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to Ministers of the Crown or members of an organisation or officers and employees of any public service agency or organisation in the course of their duty.

In terms of section 9(1) of the Act, I am satisfied that, in the circumstances, the withholding of information in this request 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 decisions relating to this request, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Please note that due to the public interest in our work, the Ministry publishes responses to requests for official information shortly after the response has been sent on our website at: <https://environment.govt.nz/about-us/official-information-act-requests/>. If you have any queries about this, please feel free to contact our Ministerial Services team at: ministerials@mfe.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chelsea Cooper', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Chelsea Cooper
Acting Manager, Ministerial Services
Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao

Document schedule

#	Date	Code	Title	Decision	Grounds	Link/Notes
1	19 June 2025	N/A	Overview of Vote Environment 2025 26 (Finance A3)	Released in full	N/A	N/A
2	19 June 2025	N/A	Crib notes to Finance A3 25-26	Released in full	N/A	N/A
3	19 June 2025	N/A	A3 - Hoggard	Released in full	N/A	N/A
4	19 June 2025	N/A	A3 - All Ministers - People (FTE, Operating Model, Restructure)	Released in full	N/A	N/A
5	19 June 2025	N/A	A3 - All Ministers - Finance	Released in full	N/A	N/A
6	19 June 2025	N/A	Overview of Vote Environment 2025 26 (Climate Change)	Released in full	N/A	N/A
7	19 June 2025	N/A	Crib notes to Minister of Climate Change Finance A3 25-26	Released in full	N/A	N/A
8	19 June 2025	N/A	Hon Watts - Opening Remarks Estimates	Released in full	N/A	N/A
9	13 June 2025	BRF-6335	Aide memoire: Upcoming Estimates hearing 2025/26	Released in full	N/A	N/A
10	13 June 2025	BRF-6335 Appendix 1	Appendix 1. Hot Topics for Estimates hearing on 19 June	Released in full	N/A	N/A
11	19 June 2025	N/A	Minister Simmonds 2025-26 Estimates Hearing Support Materials_version 11	Released in part	9(2)(f)(iv)	Three explanatory notes added to pages 11 and 54 to correct information previously provided within the document. The public interest in this material does not outweigh the need to withhold it at this time.
12	19 June 2025	N/A	A3 - Key Topics - Hon Watts	Released in part	9(2)(f)(iv), 9(2)(g)(i)	The public interest in this material does not outweigh the need to withhold it at this time. One explanatory note added to page 1 to amend a row title.
13	19 June 2025	N/A	Hot Topics for Estimates hearing on 19 June - Min Bishop content	Released in part	9(2)(f)(iv)	The public interest in this material does not outweigh the need to withhold it at this time.