

12 June 2024

OIAD-992



Tēnā koe 9(2)(a)

Thank you again for your email of 7 March 2024 requesting 29 briefings as noted in the reply to Written Parliamentary Question 1166 (2024) under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

This letter provides a response to the second tranche of three documents in scope of your request.

One of these briefings has been released to you in full. The remaining two briefings have been released in part, with some 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.

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

The Ministry would like to clarify paragraph four of BRF-4235, as it is inaccurate. Please note that this paragraph should state the Chief Executive of Environment Canterbury, Stefanie Rixecker, was approached by the Ministry as to whether she would be willing to meet with the Minister for the Environment.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman of my decision to refuse and 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: 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>.

Nāku noa, nā

Electronically approved by Sarah Stevenson

Sarah Stevenson

General Manager – Strategy

Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao

Document Table

Doc no.	Date	Title	Decision on release	OIA sections applied
1.	19/12/2023	BRF-4044: Advice to support the Ministers discussion with the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment	Released in full	
2.	26/01/2024	BRF-4145: Driving Effective Investment in Environmental Data Flagship Performance Measure	Released in part	9(2)(f)(iv)
3.	12/02/2024	BRF-4235: Further information on the proposals for the Environmental Reporting Bill	Released in part	9(2)(f)(iv)