



11 February 2026

26-OIAD-00054

9(2)(a)



Tēnā koe 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 12 January 2026 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) of the Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry):

All correspondence and documents (including but not limited to briefing notes, analyses) provided by the Ministry for the Environment on the prominence of environmental functions and priorities within the new proposed Ministry of Cities, Environment, Regions and Transport.

Any risks, concerns identified, potential adverse impacts identified by the Ministry for the Environment arising from the Ministry being brought together under the new proposed Ministry of Cities, Environment, Regions and Transport.

Where such risks or concerns were provided to any Minister or Ministers, I also request any response received and any follow up communication.

I have identified one document in scope of your request, as listed below:

BRF-6647 Environment Act 1986 settings.

I am releasing this document 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.
- 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 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 'Simon King', written in a cursive style.

Simon King
Chief Advisor, Office of the Chief Executive
Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao