



7 May 2024

9(2)a

Dear 9(2)a

Thank you for your email of 17 March 2024 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

The following documents related to Ministry for the Environment projects implemented in the Tairāwhiti region of Aotearoa New Zealand within the last 10 years:

- *Design briefs, project briefs and reports*
- *Pilot and research findings*
- *Business cases*
- *Implementation strategies and plans*
- *Change management strategies and plans*
- *Engagement strategies and plans*
- *Decision, Risks and Issues registers*
- *Programme and project closure documents (including stakeholder feedback and lessons learned).*
- *Evaluations*

Following your discussion with the Community Investments team, you agreed to refine your scope to the following:

- *Information relating to one project from the Tairāwhiti region. In particular, information which includes discussion on any barriers or enablers to the project. This may include, but is not limited to, applications, deeds of funding, and closure reports.*
- *Any information on engagement strategies and approaches for this project, if available.*
- *Ideally, the information will be for a project that is (or was) community-led, and has been completed, meaning information on evaluations is also available.*

The Ministry for the Environment has identified six documents in scope of your request, as listed in the attached table.

These documents have some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of natural persons, or because it is out of scope of your request.

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 [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.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wes Patrick', is written over a light grey rectangular background.

Wes Patrick
Manager
Community Investments

Document schedule

Document no.	Document date	Content	Decisions	OIA sections applied
1	30 April 2015	Te Mana o Te Wai Application Fund	Release in part	9(2)(a)
2	24 September 2015	Acceptance Letter: Te Aitanga a Hauiti Centre of Excellence Trust	Release in part	9(2)(a)
3	9 May 2016	Signed Deed of Funding	Release in part	9(2)(a) Out of scope information withheld
4	31 May 2019	Closure Report	Release in part	9(2)(a)
5	16 September 2019	Final Project Closure Letter	Release in part	9(2)(a)
6	August 2020	Final Project Evaluation Report	Release in part	Out of scope information withheld