



OIAD-1084

5 June 2024

9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe 9(2)(a)

I refer to your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), which was partially transferred from the Office of the Minister Responsible for RMA Reform, Hon Chris Bishop, to the Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry) on 7 May 2024. The Ministry is providing a response to the part of your request seeking the following papers:

- *Advice on meeting invitations (12/01/2024)*
- *Fast-Track consenting follow-up (12/01/2024)*
- *A permanent fast-track consenting regime for regional and national projects of significance (16/01/2024)*
- *100-day plan commitment: How to cease implementation of new Significant Natural Areas (31/01/2024)*
- *Fast-track consenting delegated decisions – Ministerial referral and eligibility (5/02/2024)*
- *Briefing: National Direction for Natural Hazards: Next Steps (9/02/2024)*
- *MBIE-2324-2098: Fast Track Consenting Bill - Policy Decisions Tranche 2A (14/02/2024)*
- *Potential amendments to National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land 2022 (NPS-HPL) (14/02/2024)*
- *Work programme for improving the resource management system (15/02/2024)*
- *Further advice on opportunities for spatial planning to advance Government objectives (16/02/2024)*
- *Request for approval to provide Fast Track Consenting Bill to Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (23/02/2024)*
- *Fast-Track Consenting Bill - Inclusion of Listed Projects (26/02/2024)*
- *Fast-track delegated decisions (26/02/2024)*
- *Proposed cessation of new significant natural areas and review of their operation (28/02/2024)*

Of the 14 requested papers, four of these substantive papers have an associated appendix. Therefore, in total, the Ministry has identified 18 documents in scope of your request, as listed in the attached document schedule.

- One document has been released in part, with some information withheld under section 9(2)(h) of the Act to maintain legal professional privilege.
- Seven documents have been withheld in full under the following sections of the Act:

- Section 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 official.
 - Section 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.
 - Section 9(2)(h) – to maintain legal professional privilege.
- 10 documents have been refused under section 18(d) of the Act, as the information is, or is soon to be, publicly available.

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 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.

Nāku noa, nā,



Danielle Ryan
Manager – Ministerial Services
Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao

Document schedule

Document no.	Document date	Content	Decisions	OIA sections applied
1	12 January 2024	BRF-4102 Advice on meeting invitations	Withheld in full	9(2)(g)(i)
1.1	12 January 2024	BRF-4102 Appendix One - Meeting Advice Min Bishop Various Stakeholders	Withheld in full	9(2)(g)(i)
2	12 January 2024	BRF-4073 Fast-Track consenting follow-up	Refused	18(d) – This information is soon to be publicly available.
3	16 January 2024	CAB-379 A permanent fast-track consenting regime for regional and national projects of significance	Refused	18(d) – This information is soon to be publicly available.
4	31 January 2024	BRF-4066 100-day plan commitment: How to cease implementation of new Significant Natural Areas	Released in part	9(2)(h)
5	5 February 2024	BRF-4115 Fast-track consenting delegated decisions – Ministerial referral and eligibility	Refused	18(d) – This information is soon to be publicly available.
6	9 February 2024	BRF-4143 Briefing: National Direction for Natural Hazards: Next Steps	Withheld in full	9(2)(f)(iv)

6.1	9 February 2024	BRF-4143 Appendix One - Proposed-National-Policy-Statement-for-Natural-Hazard-Decision-making-2023	Refused	18(d) – This information is publicly available at: Proposed National Policy Statement for Natural Hazard Decision-making 2023 Ministry for the Environment
7	14 February 2024	BRF-4203 MBIE-2324-2098: Fast Track Consenting Bil - Policy Decisions Tranche 2A	Refused	18(d) – This information is soon to be publicly available.
8	14 February 2024	BRF-4054 Potential amendments to National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land 2022 (NPS-HPL)	Withheld in full	9(2)(f)(iv)
9	15 February 2024	CAB-391 Work programme for improving the resource management system	Refused	18(d) – This information is publicly available at: Work programme for reforming the resource management system Ministry for the Environment
9.1	15 February 2024	CAB-391 Appendix 1 - Reforming the Resource Management System - Three-year Indicative Work Programme	Refused	18(d) – This information is publicly available at: Work programme for reforming the resource management system Ministry for the Environment
10	16 February 2024	BRF-4156 Further advice on opportunities for spatial planning to advance Government	Withheld in full	9(2)(f)(iv)
10.1	16 February 2024	BRF-4156 Appendix One	Withheld in full	9(2)(f)(iv)

11	23 February 2024	BRF-4347 Request for approval to provide Fast Track Consenting Bil to Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga	Withheld in full	9(2)(h)
12	26 February 2024	BRF-4306 Fast-Track Consenting Bill - Inclusion of Listed Projects	Refused	18(d)
13	26 February 2024	BRF-4307 Fast-track delegated decisions	Refused	18(d) – This information is soon to be publicly available.
14	28 February 2024	CAB-384 Proposed cessation of new significant natural areas and review of their operation	Refused	18(d) – This information is soon to be publicly available.