



20 August 2024

9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 2 July 2024 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

1. *All advice, reports, memos, aides-memoire, or similar documents sent to your responsible Minister regarding hiring and staffing changes in your department since November 2023*
2. *All information documents, consultation documents, and surveys sent to multiple staff regarding hiring and staffing changes in your department since November 2023*
3. *All correspondence between senior leaders regarding the use of Te Reo Maori, Maori cultural capability, and Te Tiriti obligations in your department since November 2023*
4. *All advice, reports, memos, aides-memoire, or similar documents sent to your responsible Minister regarding the use of Te Reo Maori, Maori cultural capability, and Te Tiriti obligations in your department, since November 2023*
5. *All changes to guidelines or policies regarding the use of Te Reo Maori, Maori cultural capability, and Te Tiriti obligations within your department since November 2023*

In response to part one of your request, we have identified 13 documents in scope of your request as outlined in the below document table. These documents are due to be released and published in the near future. Therefore, I am refusing part one of your request under section 18(d), as the information in scope will soon be made publicly available. Once published, these papers will be able to be found at: <https://environment.govt.nz/oia-releases/>, references OIAD-1109 and OIAD-1119.

We have interpreted part two of your request as being for any documents containing information, consultation documents, or surveys sent to staff by the Ministry regarding hiring and staffing changes from November 2023 to 2 July 2024 (the date of your request).

In response to part two of your request, we have identified one document in scope (document 14 in the document table below). I am releasing this document to you in full.

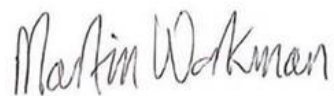
We have interpreted part three of your request as being for internal correspondence between the Ministry's senior leaders, rather than external communications with members of the leadership team. Parts three, four and five ask for information *regarding the use of Te Reo Maori, Maori cultural capability, and Te Tiriti obligations within your department*. We have interpreted this as being related to Ministry-wide directives and information, rather than information specific to any policy or workstream.

We have not identified any information in scope of parts three, four and five of your request. As a result, I must refuse these parts of your request under section 18(e) of the Act, as the documents requested do not exist or, despite best efforts to find them, cannot be found.

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 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.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Martin Workman". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Martin Workman

Chief of Staff

Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao

Document schedule

Doc no.	Doc date	Content	Decision on release	OIA section/s applied
1.	29 January 2024	BRF-4127 – Budget 2024 Initial Baseline Exercise	Refuse in full	18(d)
2.	5 February 2024	BRF-4168 – Further information on baseline savings	Refuse in full	18(d)
3.	5 February 2024	BRF-4168 Attachment 1: Impact on the Ministry's FTE capability and capacity (updated)	Refuse in full	18(d)
4.	7 February 2024	BRF-4168 Attachment 2: Summary of intended changes to the existing work programme	Refuse in full	18(d)
5.	13 February 2024	RM Budget bid – summary tables (sent via email to be read alongside BRF-4237)	Refuse in full	18(d)
6.	8 May 2024	Vote Environment Key messages and Final Draft SOIs	Refuse in full	18(d)
7.	9 May 2024	BRF 4621 Aide memoire: Next steps following Budget 24 Decisions	Refuse in full	18(d)
8.	20 May 2024	Additional info on BRF-4621 - for Minister Bishop - 20 May 2024	Refuse in full	18(d)
9.	29 May 2024	MfE Budget 2024 Communications Plan	Refuse in full	18(d)
10.	17 May 2024	Savings – Slides – Budget 24 Comms	Refuse in full	18(d)
11.	17 May 2024	MfE Budget and change key facts (final version)	Refuse in full	18(d)
12.	28 March 2024	BRF-4553 Additional CERF savings, implications, and next steps	Refuse in full	18(d)
13.	28 March 2024	BRF-4553 Appendix 3 – Budget 2024 initial baseline exercise summary template	Refuse in full	18(d)
14.	5 June 2024	Resetting the Ministry – Proposal for consultation and feedback	Release in full	NA