



s 9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe s 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 20 June 2023 to the Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry) requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- *How the ministry utilises ChatGPT or similar language models in its operations.*
- *The specific tasks or purposes ChatGPT is used for.*
- *How ChatGPT is integrated into the ministry's workflow and processes.*
- *Any internal correspondence, assessments or evaluations of the accuracy and effectiveness of ChatGPT's responses in various operational contexts.*
- *Any limitations or ethical considerations associated with the use of ChatGPT by the ministry, especially concerning privacy, data security, or potential biases in responses.*
- *Additional questions:*
- *How does the ministry plan to keep the public informed and address any questions or concerns regarding the use of ChatGPT in its services?*
- *Are there any guidelines or policies in place regarding the use of ChatGPT by staff?*
- *Has the ministry sought external or independent assessments of ChatGPT's performance, effectiveness, or any potential risks associated with its use?*

In terms of automated intelligence tools such as Chat GPT and Large Language Models, the Ministry has not approved the use of these tools and they are not permitted to be used for any corporate, Ministry, personal or sensitive information. The Ministry will continue to track the potential use of such tools and will follow the expectations that the Privacy Commissioner has issued in relation to such tools.

The Ministry will address any questions or concerns from the public regarding the use of ChatGPT as required and through the channel that the enquiry is received.

The Ministry has not sought external or independent assessments of ChatGPT's performance, effectiveness, or any potential risks associated with its use. However, the Ministry has been provided with some guidance on risks from our key suppliers.

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 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.

Ngā mihi

Electronically signed by Mike Porter

Mike Porter

Chief Information Officer

Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao