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Thank you for your email of 23 June 2023 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Can I please request a copy of the following document: "Ministry for the Environment. 2018. Proposed National Planning Standards evaluation report 2018: Part 2C – Definitions".

We have had numerous queries raised in relation to National Planning Standards definitions and we are wanting to review the s32 report for the definitions to see if it provides clarity. The requested document is referred to in this document.

The Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry) has identified the requested documents were lost from the Ministry's website during a digital transition from one system to another. We have rectified this error and published the series: *Proposed National Planning Standards evaluation report 2018*. On that basis the Ministry is refusing this request under section 18(d) of the Act, as the requested documents have been proactively released and are available to the public. You can access the requested documents on the Ministry's website: <https://environment.govt.nz/publications/proposed-national-planning-standards-evaluation-report-2018-part-1-overall-assessment/>

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.

Ngā mihi,

Lorena Stephen

Acting Director – RM Implementation
Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao