

15 May 2015

Peter Stevens
Supervising Producer
One News Political Unit
peter.stevens@tvnz.co.nz

Dear Peter

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 26 March 2015 requesting information on bridge upgrades and/or roading works in Northland over the past six years. We sought your refinement of your request and on 8 April 2015 you resubmitted your request for:

All advice, research and other relevant data that the NZ Transport Agency has prepared for government ministers, other MPs or Treasury between 26 March 2014 and 26 March 2015 relating to:

- *the announcement to upgrade the 10 bridges in Northland*
- *significant roading projects in Northland*
- *Puhoi to Wellsford Road of National Significance.*

The following documents fall within the scope of your request about Northland bridges and significant roading projects. Information which is out of the scope of your request has been redacted.

Attachments 8, 9 and 10 were provided in response to requests from the Office of the Minister of Transport about upgrading the Northland bridges. The Transport Agency was not asked to provide advice to the Minister of Transport about whether to proceed with upgrading the Northland bridges.

- Attachment 1: Emails of 11 June 2014 with information for Phil Heatley MP on Whangarei Corridor projects.
- Attachment 2: Emails of July 2014 to and from Mike Sabin MP regarding prioritising Matakoho bridge realignment.
- Attachment 3: Briefing note dated 4 November 2014 to Minister of Transport titled *Repairs to storm-damaged roads in Northland.*
- Attachment 4: Emails of October and November 2014 to and from Mike Sabin MP regarding Northland roading 'pinch points'. Please note that the attachment to the memo referred to was not included in the email of 19 November 2014 to Mike Sabin.
- Attachment 5: Briefing note dated 5 December 2014 to Minister of Transport titled *Background information for Northland visit.*

- Attachment 6: Briefing note dated 15 December 2014 to Minister of Transport titled *Itinerary and supporting information for Northland visit on 19 December 2014*.
- Attachment 7: Emails of 2 March 2015 to and from the Office of the Minister of Transport regarding the Loop Road North to Smeatons Hill Safety Improvements project.
- Attachment 8: Emails of 5 March 2015 to Office of the Minister of Transport regarding single-lane bridges in Northland.
- Attachment 9: Email of 6 March 2015 to Office of the Minister of Transport regarding replacement costs for single-lane bridges in Northland.
- Attachment 10: Email of 6 March 2015 to Office of the Minister of Transport regarding the draft Northland Regional Land Transport Plan.
- Attachment 11: Emails of 17 March 2015 to and from the Office of the Minister of Transport regarding the Akerama Improvements project.

The following documents fall within the scope your request about the Puhoi to Wellsford Road of National Significance:

- Attachment 12: Emails of 7 April 2014 to and from the Office of the Minister of Transport regarding the economic benefits of the Puhoi to Wellsford Road of National Significance.
- Attachment 13: Update on Puhoi to Wellsford Road of National Significance provided to the Office of the Minister of Transport, May 2014.
- Attachment 14: Emails of 18 June 2014 to and from the Office of the Minister of Transport regarding key dates for the Puhoi to Wellsford Road of National Significance.
- Attachment 15: Email of 25 June 2014 to the Office of the Minister of Transport regarding construction timing for the Puhoi to Wellsford Road of National Significance.
- Attachment 16: Information prepared for the Office of the Minister of Transport on crash statistics, and benefits of Puhoi to Wellsford Road of National Significance.
- Attachment 17: Emails of August 2014 to and from the Office of the Minister of Transport regarding construction timing for the Puhoi to Wellsford Road of National Significance.
- Attachment 18: Emails of March 2015 to and from the Office of the Minister of Transport regarding kauri trees on land designated for the Puhoi to Warkworth project.

Certain information has been withheld under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Official Information Act 1982. This section allows for the withholding of information to protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.

With respect to the information that has been withheld, I do not consider there are any other factors which would render it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available.

Under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act 1982, you have the right to apply to an Ombudsman for an investigation and review of the decision to withhold this information. The address is:

Office of the Ombudsmen

PO Box 10152

Wellington

If you would like to discuss this reply with the Transport Agency, please contact Andy Knackstedt, National Media Manager, by email to andrew.knackstedt@nzta.govt.nz or by phone on (04) 894 6285.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B Gliddon', with a stylized, cursive script.

Brett Gliddon

Highway Manager Auckland and Northland