

30 May 2019

Katarina Williams
Reporter
Stuff
katarina.williams@stuff.co.nz

REF: OIA-5130

Dear Katarina

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

On 16 May 2019 we received a letter from the Treasury transferring your request for information about Melling Interchange to the NZ Transport Agency. You wrote to us on 24 May 2019 to confirm that you are asking for:

"...all advice and briefings regarding the Melling Interchange project that the NZ Transport Agency provided to the Minister of Transport Hon Phil Twyford and other MPs in the past year."

The documents in scope and their release status are outlined in the Document Schedule attached to this letter. Please note that some information has been withheld under the following sections of the Act:

- Section 9(2)(a) of the Act *"to protect the privacy of natural persons"*
- section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act *"to maintain the current constitutional conventions protecting the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers and officials"*
- section 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act *"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 or officers and employees of any department or organisation in the course of their duty."*

Some information has been refused under section 18(d) of the Act as the information requested is publicly available. Information out of scope has also been redacted.

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 of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision to withhold some information and to refuse parts of this request. The contact details for the Ombudsman can be located at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

If you would like to discuss this reply with the Transport Agency, please contact Andrew Knackstedt 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 'Kevin Reid', written in a cursive style.

Kevin Reid
Senior Manager System Design

OIA-5130 Document Schedule

REF	Document name	Date	For release?	Information being withheld/reason for withholding
1.	BRI-1383 Interchange Design Options – State Highway 2 Melling Transport Improvements	20/06/2018	Yes	Personal details have been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act to protect the privacy of natural persons. Information out of scope has also been redacted.
2.	BRI-1390 Housing New Zealand Briefing Input	25/06/2018	Yes	Personal details have been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act to protect the privacy of natural persons.
3.	BRI-1354 – TAIP Project Re-evaluations	06/07/2018	Yes	Personal details have been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act to protect the privacy of natural persons. Some information has been withheld under section 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act, 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 or officers and employees of any department or organisation in the course of their duty. Information out of scope has also been redacted.
4.	BRI-1502 – Re-evaluation project – Tranche-2	02/11/2018	Yes	Personal details have been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act to protect the privacy of natural persons. Some information has been withheld under section 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act, 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 or officers and employees of any department or organisation in the course of their duty. Information out of scope has also been redacted.

5.	MIN-2939 Update on Melling announcement	03/12/2018	No	Withheld in full under section 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act 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 or officers and employees of any department or organisation in the course of their duty.
6.	BRI-1560 Including re-evaluated SH activities into the NLTP	15/02/2019	No	Withheld in full under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act to maintain the current constitutional conventions protecting the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers and officials.
7.	MIN-2956: Update on the Melling Transport Improvements Project	15/02/2019	Yes	Released in full.
8.	MIN-3007 Urgent questions from Minister Twyford	27/02/2018	Yes	Information out of scope has been redacted.
9.	BRI-1638 Melling Transport Improvement Project - update and announcement	08/04/2019	Yes	<p>Personal details have been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act to protect the privacy of natural persons.</p> <p>Some information has been withheld under section 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act, 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 or officers and employees of any department or organisation in the course of their duty.</p>
10.	BRI-1642 Re-evaluation programme update	15/04/2019	Yes	<p>Personal details have been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act to protect the privacy of natural persons.</p> <p>Information out of scope has also been redacted.</p>