

18 December 2023

[REDACTED]

REF: OIA-14037

Dear [REDACTED]

**Request made under the Official Information Act 1982**

Thank you for your email of 9 November 2023 requesting further information regarding digital driver licences under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

I have numbered each part of your request and will respond to each in turn.

- 1. You mentioned that Waka Kotahi is in the "discovery phase" and is exploring how digital driver licences are implemented internationally, adhering to ISO18013-5 standards. You have also stated that Waka Kotahi has engaged with international jurisdictions that have implemented digital driver licences. I kindly request the release of all correspondence, including emails and any other information exchanged, between Waka Kotahi and the relevant departments of these jurisdictions. This would specifically include the Department of Transport and Main Roads (Queensland), the Department of Transport and Planning (Victoria), Service NSW (New South Wales), and the Department of Driver Services (Georgia, United States).**

The documents that fall within the scope of your request are listed in the attached document schedule and those that are being released to you are enclosed. In response to your first question, the following document is released to you:

- Attachment 1 – OIA-14037 – emails with jurisdictions.

Certain information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act. This section allows for the withholding of information to protect the privacy of natural persons.

Certain information has also been withheld under section 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act. This section allows for the withholding of information 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 offices and employees of any public service agency or organisation in the course of their duty.

Please note that I am refusing release of the document titled *Digital Licence App\_Business How-to\_April 2022 v1 (1)* as an attachment to the email of 7 November 2022 *legislation references -Q Qld digital licence*, under section 18(d) of the Act, as it is publicly available on the Queensland Government website at:

[www.publications.qld.gov.au/dataset/digital-licence-app/resource/2384c01c-26f0-421d-861d-3d7b5bbdb1e6](http://www.publications.qld.gov.au/dataset/digital-licence-app/resource/2384c01c-26f0-421d-861d-3d7b5bbdb1e6).

I am also refusing release of the document titled *Thales approved mDL Reader App Terms and Conditions – iOS*, as an attachment to the email of 14 April 2023 *RE Queensland licence App*, under section 18(d) of the Act as it is publicly available on the Queensland Government website at: [www.publications.qld.gov.au/ckan-publications-attachments-prod/resources/ef31410d-6a18-48c1-8bc1-9dc55073a0f5/digital-licence-verifier-app-end-user-licence-agreement-terms-and-conditions-android.pdf?ETag=b165e387874a4b792e2ed81bd01677e8](http://www.publications.qld.gov.au/ckan-publications-attachments-prod/resources/ef31410d-6a18-48c1-8bc1-9dc55073a0f5/digital-licence-verifier-app-end-user-licence-agreement-terms-and-conditions-android.pdf?ETag=b165e387874a4b792e2ed81bd01677e8).

- 2. It was stated that certain information regarding the list of amendments is withheld under section 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act. Are you able to share any non-sensitive parts of this assessment, or a summary that maintains the integrity of the public affairs conduct?**

It is too early in the policy process to provide any of this information relating to potential legislative changes. Therefore, I am continuing to withhold this information under section 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act.

- 3. You mentioned that "Waka Kotahi has met with industry groups" and a PowerPoint presentation was shared. Could you provide the minutes or summaries of these meetings, along with the names of those "industry groups"?**

The following documents contain information that falls within the scope of your request:

- Georgia USA - LinkedIn conversation
- NSW - Meeting Notes
- Queensland - meeting notes
- Queensland - Pilot Feedback
- Victoria - meeting notes.

I am withholding these five documents in full under section 9(2)(ba)(i) of the Act. This section allows for the withholding of information to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied.

- 4. As the Chief Digital Officer, what measures has Liz Maguire personally advocating for to ensure that the DDL project remains a top priority within Waka Kotahi and receives the attention it deserves at the governmental level?**

The digitisation of NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) services is a key priority for us and forms part of our digital strategy. I periodically brief the Board on mobile driver licence, and NZTA brief its key stakeholders when appropriate, as any implementation of a solution will require legislative change.

- 5. Your letter indicates that "Waka Kotahi has compiled an initial assessment of legislative changes to enable a digital driver licence in New Zealand." While acknowledging the need for discretion (as you mentioned that Ministers and the Ministry of Transport are involved), could you provide an overview of the legislative areas identified for amendment?**

The legislative areas identified for amendment are the Land Transport Act 1998 and the Land Transport (Driver Licensing) Rule 1999.

- 6. You previously advised that the Ministry of Transport is the government department that can influence and/or lead legislative changes required for DDLs. Please provide all documents detailing communication between Waka Kotahi and the Ministry of Transport related to these legislative changes. This includes, but is not limited to, emails, meeting minutes, reports, and any recommendations or analyses regarding the required legislative amendments for DDL.**

The following document contains information that falls within the scope of your request and is enclosed:

- Attachment 2 - FW Electronic driver licences – update.

I am withholding certain information from this document under sections 9(2)(a) and 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act.

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 this information and refuse part of this request. The contact details for the Ombudsman can be located at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

In line with NZTA policy, this response will soon be published on our website, with personal information removed.

If you would like to discuss this reply with NZTA, please contact the Ministerial Services team, by email to [official.correspondence@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:official.correspondence@nzta.govt.nz).

Yours sincerely



**Liz Maguire**  
Chief Digital Officer

### OIA-14037 Document Schedule

Ref	Document	Date	Description
1.	Attachment 1 – OIA-14037 – emails with jurisdictions	Various	Certain information withheld under sections 9(2)(a), 9(2)(g)(i) and partly refused under section 18(d) of the Act.
2.	Attachment 2 - FW Electronic driver licences – update.	28 June 2022	Certain information withheld under sections 9(2)(a), 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act.
3.	Georgia USA - LinkedIn conversation	29 May 2023	Withheld in full under section 9(2)(ba)(i) of the Act.
4.	NSW - Meeting Notes	25 October 2023	Withheld in full under section 9(2)(ba)(i) of the Act.
5.	Queensland - meeting notes	23 November 2022	Withheld in full under section 9(2)(ba)(i) of the Act.
6.	Queensland - Pilot Feedback	11 August 2023	Withheld in full under section 9(2)(ba)(i) of the Act.
7.	Victoria - meeting notes	14 June 2023	Withheld in full under section 9(2)(ba)(i) of the Act.