

2 August 2019

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REF: OIA-5409

Dear Virginia,

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of Friday 5 July 2019 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

'I'm requesting information following the discovery of human bones during work on the Peka Peka to Otaki Expressway on June 12 this year.

'I'm requesting details of all correspondence both internal and external, regarding the find, between June 12, 2019 and July 5, 2019.

This request includes, but is not limited to, written reports, documents, memos, letters, emails, notes, draft documents, as well as meeting notes over that period.

If there is anything in the spirit of this request that hasn't be included, but may be relevant to it, please feel free to include this in your response.'

The following documents fall within the scope of your request and are enclosed:

- Attachment 1: email chain re PP20 – Koiwi (5 July 2019)
- Attachment 2: email chain re Discovery Protocol Timelines (5 July 2019)
- Attachment 3: email chain FW: PP20: Accidental Discovery Protocols (3 July 2019)
- Attachment 4: attachment that accompanied email chain in attachment 3 – Archaeological Site Management Plan: Peka Peka to Otaki.
- Attachment 5: factsheet.

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, including that of deceased natural persons.

Certain information has been withheld under section 9(2)(ba)(ii) 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 otherwise to damage the public interest.

Certain information has been withheld under section 9(2)(j) of the Act. This section allows for the withholding of information to enable a Minister of the Crown or any department or organisation holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations.

Certain information has 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 officers and employees of any department or organisation in the course of their duty.

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. The contact details for the Ombudsman can be located at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz

If you would like to discuss this reply with the NZ Transport Agency, please contact Jasmine Higginson, Lower North Island Media Manager, by email to jasmine.higginson@nzta.govt.nz or by phone on 04 903 2315.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Thackwray', written in a cursive style.

Andrew Thackwray
Senior Manager, Project Delivery