

16 July 2024

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

REF: OIA-15726

Dear [REDACTED]

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 24 June 2024 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

There has recently been extensive landscaping and associated work done on your land, on which is sited an old Heritage classified house, which presumably is scheduled for refurbishment. I would be grateful for advice on the plans for the house and site - refurbishment, future use, time frames and any general information which you might deem relevant.

The land you refer to was acquired by the Crown for the construction of the Peka Peka to Ōtaki Expressway. The building on the land is referred to as 'Clifden Cottage' or 'Riverslea'. The house was built circa 1874 on the south bank of the Ōtaki River by the Small family (settlers from Scotland) and was known as their 'Clifden' farmhouse for three generations.

In 1943 the house and part of the farm became a summer camp for deprived Wellington families, run by the Wellington City Mission. This was an important part of the work of the Anglican Saint Peter's Church in Wellington city, working with the inner-city Te Aro communities. The house was renamed 'Riverslea' and was used for four decades as a convalescent home as part of a summer camp.

In the 1980s, the summer camp was sold and became a privately owned holiday camp, conference, and events facility.

The property was acquired by the Crown in 2010 for the adjacent expressway. The house has been relocated some 20 metres east from its original location, with its orientation and outlook over the Ōtaki River retained.

Whilst it is not a Heritage New Zealand listed heritage building, NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) is required to repair and conserve the exterior heritage features as a condition of the expressway designation. This work will commence shortly and when complete, the cottage, and land immediately surrounding it, will be subdivided from the adjoining carpark area. We are forecasting to

complete this work late November / early December 2024. The restored cottage and subdivided land will then be subject to review as to whether NZTA has any further requirement for the land.

NZTA has agreed to transfer the balance land with the carpark to Kāpiti Coast District Council as a local road reserve. The Council has expressed its desire for a public parking facility at this location.

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 us by email to official.correspondence@nzta.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Wiles', is centered below the text 'Yours sincerely'.

Peter Wiles

National Manager Infrastructure Delivery