

29 October 2024

[REDACTED]

Radio NZ

[REDACTED]

REF: OIA-16405

Dear [REDACTED]

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 11 September 2024 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

any briefings or aides memoire to government ministers about the proposals to toll Te Ahu a Turanga and the Otaki to North of Levin highways, as well as any reports or draft reports about the proposals?

In your email of 19 September 2024, you clarified the timeframe for your request to be between 7 June 2024 and 19 September 2024.

The documents outlined in the appended document schedule fall within the scope of your request and are enclosed.

Please note, certain information is being withheld from Document 1 under the following sections of the Act:

- 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons.
- 9(2)(g)(i) 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 public service agency or organisation in the course of their duty.
- 9(2)(h) to maintain legal professional privilege.
- 9(2)(f)(iv) to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.

Documents 7, 8 and 9 in the document schedule are refused under section 18(d) as they are publicly available on the following tolling consultation pages:

- www.nzta.govt.nz/assets/projects/otaki-to-north-of-levin/docs/o2nl-tolling-consultation-brochure.pdf.
- www.nzta.govt.nz/assets/projects/takitimu-north-link/docs/tnl-tolling-consultation-brochure.pdf.

- www.nzta.govt.nz/assets/projects/te-ahu-a-turanga/tur-tolling-consultation-brochure.pdf.

Document 3 is partially refused under section 18(d) of the Act, as the information will soon be made publicly available.

Other documents that you may find useful are previously published responses to requests for official information that are publicly available online here: www.nzta.govt.nz/about-us/official-information-act/official-information-act-responses/#.

Specifically, please find:

- “Tolling assessments for Te Ahu a Turanga and Ōtaki to North of Levin Highway (Ō2NL)” published on 24 September 2024.
- “Te Ahu a Turanga and Ōtaki to north of Levin tolling proposals and reports” published on 30 September 2024.

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.

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 NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA), please contact the Andrew Knackstedt, Senior Manager Media, by email to andrew.knackstedt@nzta.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely



Robyn Elston

National Manager, System Design

OIA-16405 Document Schedule

Ref	Document	Date	Description
1.	BRI-3099 - Public consultation on three proposed tolling schemes and options for increasing toll rates on existing toll roads.	19 August 2024	Certain information is being withheld under sections 9(2)(a), 9(2)(g)(i), 9(2)(h) and 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act.
2.	Excerpt from Minister_Brown_Weekly_Report_WC_2_September_2024_-_NZTA.	6 September 2024	Released in full.
3.	Excerpt from Weekly_Report_week_ending_5_July.	5 July 2024	Partially refused under section 18(d) of the Act.
4.	MIN-4614 - Timeline for communications before tolling consultation	23 August 2024	Released in full.
5.	MINO-1155 - update to BRI-3099 30 August	28 August 2024	Released in full.
6.	Key messages and Q and As	22 August 2024	Released in full.
7.	O2NL_Tolling consultation doc_DRAFT	September 2024	Refused under section 18(d) of the Act.
8.	Taktitimu_Tolling consultation doc_DRAFT	September 2024	Refused under section 18(d) of the Act.
9.	Te Ahu a Turanga_Tolling consultation doc_DRAFT	September 2024	Refused under section 18(d) of the Act.