



File No. 1819-1588

31 MAY 2019

Mr Jake Preston

fyi-request-10246-18b207cc@requests.fyi.org.nz

fyi-request-10247-06712d1a@requests.fyi.org.nz

fyi-request-10248-68e588d2@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Preston

Thank you for your emails of 3 May 2019 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

All communication, emails, notes from phone calls, and recollections of interactions between MBIE and Graeme Beattie, MBIE and Hugh Cowan, and MBIE and Dave Brunsdon from 02 - 04 March 2018. This request includes all recollections and any use of private email addresses should they have been used.

We have decided to refuse your request under section 18(h) of the Act because we think it is vexatious. We have not reached this decision lightly and wish to help you find the information you are seeking. If you are able to refine your original request, by providing the subject matter related to the information you are seeking, MBIE encourages you to submit a new request for consideration under the Act.

To assist you with refining your request, and to provide an indication of the breadth of information within scope of your original request, MBIE has compiled a list of some of the topics within the initial search. Please note this is not a comprehensive list.

- Earthquake Prone Buildings
- Engineering Assessment Guidelines
- Envelope Treated Timber
- Residential Guidance for Canterbury
- Seismic Assessment Guidelines
- Conferences
- Statistics House
- Earthquake Geotechnical Guidance Modules

To provide some background on the decision we have made, on 16 April 2019, you requested all communication, emails, notes from phone calls, and recollections of interactions between MBIE and Dave Brunsdon, Hugh Cowan or Graeme Beattie between 02 March 2018, and 30 May 2018. On 2 May 2019, MBIE advised that an initial search had yielded a substantial number of documents potentially within scope and invited you to refine your request. As advised on 3 May 2019, the search parameters used were the date range in your request, and the email addresses for the three people named in your request.

In response, you asked for a list of keywords from the documents found. You also advised that, if MBIE is unable or unwilling to provide a list of keywords, then you would like all documents as per your original requests. Additionally, you advised that if MBIE was unable to provide all the documents you would break the requests down per day and make 267 individual requests to cover each day and each individual.

Corporate, Governance and Information

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On 3 May 2019, your original request was refused under section 18(f) of the Act, as the information requested could not be made available without substantial collation or research.

Your requests received on 3 May 2019, following the refusal of your original request, are perceived to be a follow-through of your statement to break down the original request into individual days. This is seen as a vexatious attempt to request the same information as your original request in spite of the decision made on the original request.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Karen Walfisch', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Karen Walfisch
Manager Ministerial Services
Engagement, Communications & Ministerial Services