

16 December 2021

Jake Preston

fyi-request-17758-f823b989@requests.fyi.org.nz

Our reference: OIA21-22 10166

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act 1982 Request

Thank you for your email of 30 November 2021, asking for the following:

“In an email between Martin Connell (Engineering Manager - EQC) and Paul Finch which copied in Sid Miller (CE - EQC) dated 26 October 2021, Mr Connell mentioned regular scheduled meetings with Engineering New Zealand.

I would like to request minutes of all scheduled meetings between EQC (Engineering Managers) and IPENZ (Now Engineering New Zealand) since 2011.”

Due to the nature of your request, we are treating it as a request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA).

Context

It is important to note that the 26 October 2021 email you refer to in your request did not note regular scheduled meetings with Engineering New Zealand (ENZ).

Instead, Martin Connell, the Earthquake Commission’s (EQC) Engineering Manager, advised that he was happy to take up a point raised in the email with ENZ at their next scheduled meeting.

Response

EQC’s Engineering Manager position was created in 2019 and has been held by Martin Connell since its establishment. Up until the date of your request, Mr Connell had only attended one scheduled meeting with ENZ, which took place on 27 September 2021. This was an ENZ Panel meeting where Mr Connell was provided with a 30-minute guest slot.

Mr Connell advises that the following topics were covered during this 30-minute guest slot:

- focus with EQC engagement of structural engineers
- ongoing efforts to resolve disagreements/disputes
- any feedback from ENZ

EQC did not create minutes for this meeting, and no meeting minutes were provided to EQC by ENZ. I am therefore unable to provide you with the minutes of this meeting as none exist. This decision is made under section 18(e) of the OIA.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision. The Office of the Ombudsman can be contacted through their website at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Please note that we do not intend to publish our response to your official information request.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sophie Carroll', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sophie Carroll
Principal Advisor