



Office of Hon Paula Bennett

MP for Waitakere

Minister for Social Development

Minister of Local Government

Associate Minister of Housing

- 3 SEP 2014

Cheryl Beauchamp
fyi-request-1832-81ac5c8b@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mrs Beauchamp

Your request for information under the Official Information Act 1982

I refer to your email of 22 July 2014 in which you request the following information under the Official Information Act 1982:

“All briefings, letters, complaints, rules, regulations and other documents of any kind and any notes or recollections of conversations you have had in your capacity as a Minister with officials or members of the public about local government rules and regulations, which you or your staff relied on to formulate the following examples of regulation given in your press release of 22 July 2014:

- signage over cake stalls;
- where your shower curtain needs to be positioned; and
- a property owner trying to replace a 130 year old fence discovered some of it was on a scenic reserve and they faced having to buy or lease the land.”

The examples used in the press release were sourced from newspaper articles that are available to the general public, and from personal anecdotes conveyed to me as Minister. Examples of newspaper articles that were drawn to my attention are:

<http://www.odt.co.nz/news/dunedin/241407/boundary-problem-provides-cautionary-tale>

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/waikato-times/news/9398824/Its-just-bureaucracy-gone-mad>

Yours sincerely

Hon Paula Bennett
Minister of Local Government