

24 August 2022

Patrick Dunford  
fyi-request-20042-475fc137@requests.fyi.org.nz

REF: OIA-10647

Dear Patrick

**Request made under the Official Information Act 1982**

Thank you for your email of 27 July 2022 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*Have any proposals been made at any time to divert SH1 between the airport and Islington taking it further west away from the residential neighbourhoods it currently passes through in the area.*

In 2015, the Western Corridor Project Team investigated alternative route options as part of a joint Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency, Christchurch International Airport and Christchurch City Council assessment. This assessment concluded that upgrading the Russley Road / Johns Road / Carmen Road corridor was the best option for all users. Re-routing SH1 west (behind the airport) was not considered a viable option because it was likely to be used by less than 15% of SH1 users – those who are bypassing Christchurch.

As part of this work an upgrade was made to the SH1/Barters Road/Pound Road/Main South Road intersection (which was completed in 2017), making the journey for those wanting to bypass Christchurch safer and easier. More information can be found here:  
<https://www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/sh1-barters-road-pound-road-improvements/>

The majority of drivers on SH1 are heading to Christchurch and therefore improvements to the existing SH1 corridor provided the greatest benefit.

In line with Waka Kotahi policy, this response will soon be published on our website, with personal information removed.

If you would like to discuss this reply with Waka Kotahi, please contact Ministerial Services by email to [official.correspondence@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:official.correspondence@nzta.govt.nz)

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robyn Elston', with a large, stylized initial 'R' at the start.

**Robyn Elston**  
National Manager, System Design