

31 August 2023

Shannon Moananu
fyi-request-23683-f4f148fa@requests.fyi.org.nz
fyi-request-23685-cb71ff63@requests.fyi.org.nz

REF: OIA-13255

Dear Shannon

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 3 August 2023 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) in relation to the E-scooter (declaration not to be motor vehicles) Notice 2018 consultation:

I would like to request further information regarding this consultation process and the next steps regarding the decision.

This includes all briefings, aide memories, memos, papers and submissions circulated within Waka Kotahi and with relevant ministers in the last 3 months.

On 3 August 2023 you sent the following further request relating to the same topic:

I would like to see any emails, correspondence, details of conversations with stakeholders and lobby groups about the renewal of this declaration from the last 3 months.

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency has been undertaking targeted engagement as part of consideration of the e-scooter declaration renewal. It's important that this is conducted in a way that all parties can freely submit their opinions on the subject and decisions can be made without undue pressure. For this reason, I am withholding the requested information in full under section 9(2)(g)(i) which provides for withholding 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 department or organisation in the course of their duty.

While this information is being withheld for the time being, Waka Kotahi will proactively release much of the information you have requested online, including summaries of submissions from the public, lobby groups and stakeholders, following the decision being made whether or not to renew the declaration. This will be made available on our website at <https://www.nzta.govt.nz/about-us/official-information-act/proactive-releases/>.

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. The contact details for the Ombudsman can be located at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

If you would like to discuss this reply with Waka Kotahi, please contact us by email to official.correspondence@nzta.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Rodley', written in a cursive style.

Chris Rodley
National Manager Regulatory System Design