

19 September 2023

Sue Nyhof

Email: [c/-fyi-request-23922-17026f38@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:c/-fyi-request-23922-17026f38@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Sue,

**OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT 1982 (OIA) – REQUEST FOR INFORMATION - CHRISTCHURCH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT LIMITED (CIAL)**

1. We write further to our email of 24 August 2023, acknowledging receipt of your email of 22 August 2023 (via the third party public platform [fyi.org.nz](http://fyi.org.nz)) titled "Reaction to Southern Way" in which you requested the following information pursuant to the OIA:

*"any emails, memos, meeting notes or other correspondence which relates to the statements made by Southern Way in this article: <https://ddec1-0-en-ctp.trendmicro.com:443/wis/clicktime/v1/query?url=https%3a%2f%2fwww.newsroom.co.nz%2fwe%2dneed%2dto%2dtalk%2dabout%2dtarras&umid=9182fa32-212f-44c6-8be1-4d7ec0971b2f&auth=a1949cb589230c261a127d13d3b35f6899aebf1c-7749c0b4e37e103507b07ee1665ccf1fdd0e2565>. Include please any reference to any of the individual member organisations of Southern Way."*

(the "**Request**").

2. At the outset we note that no statement in the article is expressly attributed to any spokesperson for Southern Way or any of the individual member organisations of Southern Way. We have, however, assumed that the following statements made in the article are included in those that you are referring to:

*"Southern Way is comfortable current needs are being met. We don't have enough information yet to understand future needs."*

*"Each region's destination-management plan has varying degrees of future focus. They need to feed into a much larger conversation on national infrastructure planning."*

3. CIAL does not hold any emails, memos, meeting notes or other correspondence specifically relating to those particular statements, aside from the article itself, and therefore the Request is refused under section 18(g) of the OIA.
4. We note, however, that the proposed Central Otago Airport project (the "**Project**") is currently in the validation and planning phase. CIAL has consistently acknowledged that there is a real diversity of opinion and range of perspectives among the community in relation to the Project and, in order to assist public understanding of the context of the Project and CIAL's decisions, CIAL has committed to respectfully engaging with the community and proactively publishing information as it completes pieces of work. This has seen CIAL:

- a. meet with a number of different individuals and entities, including specific representatives of community groups, business groups, businesses, and local authorities in relation to the Project;
  - b. publish on its Project website, among other items, a document recently dated August 2023 titled "*Unlocking Potential: Central Otago's runway to a future-focussed airport*", which provides general information on the work and analysis CIAL has undertaken as at the date thereof in relation to the Project (<https://www.centralotagoairport.co.nz/uploads/images/Unlocking-potential-31-Aug2023.pdf>). In line with the theme of the first statement noted above, this document provides general analysis in relation to future passenger demand growth in Central Otago.
5. We trust we have answered your requests for information. If you require any further information or we have in some way misinterpreted your requests, please let us know.
  6. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of the decisions contained in this letter. Information about how to contact the Ombudsman or make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

**CIAL LEGAL TEAM**

Email: [legal@cial.co.nz](mailto:legal@cial.co.nz)