

Office of Hon Chris Bishop

Minister of Housing
Minister for Infrastructure
Minister Responsible for RMA Reform
Minister for Sport and Recreation
Leader of the House
Associate Minister of Finance



Office reference: OIA23-CB011
Ombudsman reference: 007748

Alex Olsen
fyi-request-25227-33c78a4c@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Alex,

I am responding to your Ombudsman complaint dated 23 April 2024, relating to your request for information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) of 18 December 2023.

I apologise for the inconvenience that my initial response to your request caused and for the unacceptable delay in releasing the Cabinet paper. I expected to receive the report at the end of March 2024 and officials were working to this timeframe to prepare materials for proactive release. However, additional delays eventuated in my office with processing the proactive release material, and I was not able to release the Cabinet paper within the timeframe identified.

The Ombudsman's final opinion is that I was not entitled to refuse the first part of the request under section 18(d) of the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act); and that I was not entitled to withhold most of the information within the second part of the request.

Therefore, I release the information that was withheld under section 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act, with the exception of the identified portions of documents two and ten in the second part of the request. The released information is also subject to 9(2)(a) – protect the privacy of natural persons.

Accordingly, please know that I have advised my staff on the use of section 18(d) in light of the Ombudsman final opinion. I am hopeful that the provision of information has now resolved your complaint. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris Bishop'.

Hon Chris Bishop

Minister of Housing