

OC240019

16 February 2024

Jesse Archer

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Tēnā koe Jesse,

0(2)(6)

I refer to your email/letter dated 18 January 2024, requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

"Under the OIA I'd like to request any briefings, papers or any other documents relating to the 2022 consultation on road user charges that were produced after 22 April 2022.

The consultation indicates that a "Package of measures submitted to government" and "First batch of regulations proposed for consultation" would be produced after 22 April 2022 so I'd like to request a copy of these as well.

I note that some papers have previously been withheld following other OIA requests for the reason that they were still under active consideration. Now that the National Government has confirmed RUC will apply to EVs from April 1 2024, I assume those previously withheld papers are no longer under consideration and could be reconsidered for release."

Thirteen documents fall within the scope of your request and are listed in the document schedule in Annex 1. The schedule outlines how the documents have been treated under the Act. Where information is withheld it is done so under the following sections of the Act:

to protect the privacy of natural percent

9(2)(a)	to protect the privacy of natural persons
9(2)(ba)(i)	to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied
9(2)(h)	to maintain legal professional privilege
9(2)(k)	prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage

The documents we are releasing to you are attached to this letter in Annex 2.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of this response by the Ombudsman, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on the Ombudsman's website www.ombudsman.parliament.nz

The Ministry publishes our Official Information Act responses and the information contained in our reply to you may be published on the Ministry website. Before publishing we will remove any personal or identifiable information.

Nāku noa, nā

Matt Skinner

Manager Revenue

Annex 1: Document Schedule

Doc#	Reference number	Date	Title of Document	Proposed decision on request	Previously released?
1	OC220511	10 August 2022	Advice on Options Following Light EV Exemption Expiry	This document is released with minor redactions under sections 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons, and 9(2)(ba)(i) to protect submitters' identifying information (i.e. "where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied".)	No
2	OC220707	25 August 2022	Options for plug-in hybrids and very light electric vehicles after their RUC exemption expires	This document is released with minor redactions to officials' phone numbers under sections 9(2)(a) – privacy of natural persons, and to information about NZTAs operations under section 9(2)(k) – prevent improper gain or advantage.	No
3		14 December 2023	Potential reform of the Road User Charges regime	Withheld in full under section 9(2)(h) to maintain legal professional privilege.	No
4	OC220846	18 January 2023	Report Back on the 'Driving Change: Reviewing the Road User Charges System' consultation	This document is released with minor redactions to officials' phone numbers under section 9(2)(a) – privacy of natural persons, and commentary on advice sought by the Ministry, under section 9(2)(h) – legal professional privilege.	No
5			(Appendix 2) Driving Change Consultation Report	Released with redactions to submitters' identifying information under 9(2)(ba)(i), and of information about advice under section 9(2)(h) to maintain legal professional privilege.	No
6	OC230013	18 January 2023	Amending road user charges legislation for light electric vehicles	This document is released with minor redactions to officials' phone numbers under sections 9(2)(a) – privacy of natural persons.	No
7	OC220992	1 March 2023	Introducing a simple Clean truck discount scheme and considering the road user charges exemption for heavy electric vehicles	Phone numbers withheld under section 9(2)(a). Around half of the document will be redacted as 'out of scope' of the release.	No
8	OC230202	16 March 2023	Extending the light electric vehicle road user charges exemption by order in council	This document is released with minor redactions to officials' phone numbers under sections 9(2)(a) – privacy of natural persons, and to information NZTAs operations under section 9(2)(k) – prevent improper gain or advantage.	No
9		15 May 2023	Road user charges: electric vehicle exemptions and reporting back from the <i>Driving Change</i> consultation	This document is released with minor redactions under section 9(2)(k) to prevent improper gain or advantage, and section 9(2)(ba)(i) to protect the future provision of information.	No

Doc#	Reference number	Date	Title of Document	Proposed decision on request	Previously released?
10		15 May 2023	Regulatory Impact Statement - Extending road user charge exemption for heavy electric vehicles	Propose this document is released in full.	No
11		30 April 2023	CIPA disclosure sheet - Extending HEV RUC exemption	Propose this document is released in full.	No
12	CAB-23-MIN- 0378	21 August 2023	CAB-23-MIN-0378 Cabinet Minute	Propose this document is released in full.	No
13		18 October 2023	Road user charges Act 2012/overhaul of electric vehicle exemptions	Withheld in full under section 9(2)(h) to maintain legal professional privilege.	No

Annex 2: Released documents