



17/06/2024

Marcus Cook

fyi-request-26902-4e7d4b70@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Marcus

OIA: 1329302 - Further to OIA 1322372 - Kumeu College clarification of site details

Thank you for your email of 21 May 2024 to the Ministry of Education (the Ministry) requesting the following information:

- 1) First, at the top of page two, you advise there is a second site that comprises the potential Kumeu College site. Could you clarify whether this is **additional** or **alternative** to the site for which negotiations are ongoing. If this is an additional site, could you broadly advise progress in regard to that site (acknowledging the restrictions of providing too much detail).*
- 2) Second, your very helpful table shows "month and year negotiations concluded" but your footnote 3 states this was "settlement date". Could you please update to the date on which agreement was reached, or clarify that payment was in fact made on the same day agreement was reached (or within a couple of business days thereof).*

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

In response to **part one**, the second site is additional to the site for which negotiations are ongoing. There are two sites that comprise the potential College site and negotiations with the second landowner have not yet commenced. The Ministry remains in discussions with the owners of the first site. Information about the location of the potential College site is not publicly available to ensure that any commercial negotiations are not impacted. Therefore, any further details relating to these negotiations, are withheld under section 9(2)(j) of the Act, to enable the Ministry to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations.

As required under section 9(1) of the Act, I have considered the public interest in releasing the information withheld. I do not consider the public interest considerations favouring the release of this information are sufficient to outweigh the need to withhold it at this time.

In response to **part two**, I confirm that the payment was made on the same day the agreement was reached.

Please note, we may publish this response on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed.



Thank you again for your email. You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review my decision on your request, in accordance with section 28 of the Act. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or to Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Nāku noa, nā

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

Isabel Evans
Hautū | Deputy Secretary
Te Mahau | Te Tai Raro (North)