

10 July 2024

S Hill

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Our reference: OIA23-24 442

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act 1982 Request

Thank you for your email of 21 June 2024, asking for the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA):

"[1] Confirmation from EQC if it has any current or historical engagements with third parties (i.e. PWC, KPMG, Martin Jenkins) regarding Cyclone Gabrielle and the EQC response.

[2] Receive any draft and final copies of the reports commissioned by EQC regarding its response to Cyclone Gabrielle (2023)."

Response

The Natural Hazards Commission Toka Tū Ake (NHC) commissioned MartinJenkins to undertake a review of the Natural Disaster Response Model (NDRM) response to the North Island Weather Events (NIWE) that impacted New Zealand on 27 January 2023 (Auckland Anniversary weekend floods) and 9 February 2023 (Cyclone Gabrielle).

We expect the report to be published in October 2024. Once the report is published you will be able to access it here. As such, I'm refusing your request for a final copy under \$18(d) of the OIA – that the information requested is soon to be publicly available.

Additionally, I am withholding the draft reports in full under section 9(2)(g)(i) of the OIA – 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 public service agency or organisation in the course of their duty.

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

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review this response. The Office of the Ombudsman can be contacted through their website at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Ngā mihi

Ryan O'Leary

May

Senior Advisor Government Relations | Kaitohutohu Hononga Kāwanatanga Matua