



Scan for
NZSL name

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17 September 2024

Tēnā koe Simon

On 6 August 2024, you emailed Ministry of Disabled People – Whaikaha (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), the following information:

“1. All advice received and provided by the Minister in relation to the Accessibility for New Zealanders Bill.

2. The paper which Minister Hon Penny Simmonds took to the Cabinet Legislation Committee titled 'Confirming the status of the Accessibility for New Zealanders Bill' on 21 March 2024.”

On 7 August 2024, you narrowed down your request to include only *advice related to having an “overarching legislation – a separate regulatory regime that would have the direct ability to establish secondary legislation for codes, standards, and rules for all sectors as they relate to accessibility. This is a common approach in Canadian jurisdictions and is the preferred option of the Access Alliance.*

On 3 September 2024, the Ministry extended the timeframe to respond to your request under section 15A(1)(B) of the OIA as the consultations that are necessary to make a decision on your request are such that a proper response cannot reasonably be made within the original time limit.

Information in response to your request is outlined in the attached Appendix One, the table in Appendix One also indicates the decisions on each document attached.

I trust this information fulfils your request. If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact OIA_requests@whaikaha.govt.nz.

Please note, as part of its commitment towards increasing transparency, The Ministry intends to make the information contained in this letter available to the wider public. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter on the Ministry website. Your personal details will be deleted, and any information that would identify you as the requestor will be removed.



If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'EMW', enclosed within a simple rectangular box.

Emma Williams
Manager, Ministerial and Executive Services

Table of Documents

No	Document	Decision
1	REP/WHK/24/8/127 - Legislation Bids from the Disability Issues Portfolio for the 2024 Legislation Programme	Released with some information withheld under Section 9(2)(g)(i) of the OIA to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the protection of such Ministers, members of organisations, officers, and employees from improper pressure or harassment.
2	REP/WHK/24/7/095 - Proposed Accessibility work programme	Withheld in full under Section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the OIA to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.
3	Comparing Accessibility Legislation Across Jurisdictions	Released in full.
4	REP/WHK/24/3/027 - Draft Cabinet Paper - Confirming the Status of the Accessibility Bill	Released with some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA, to protect the privacy of natural persons.
5	REP/WHK/23/12/014 - Advice on the Future of the Accessibility for New Zealanders Bill	Released with some information withheld under Section 9(2)(a) of the OIA, to protect the privacy of natural persons
6	REP/WHK/24/3/020 - Access Matters Aotearoa March to Parliament	Released with some information withheld under Section 9(2)(a) of the OIA, to protect the privacy of natural persons
7	REP/WHK/23/8/749 - Accessibility Bill – Advice on Next Steps	Released with some information withheld under Section 9(2)(a) of the OIA, to protect the privacy of natural persons
8	REP/WHK/23/8/739 - Accessibility Bill - Engagement Materials	Released with some information withheld under Section 9(2)(a) of the OIA, to protect the privacy of natural persons
9	REP/WHK/23/5/494 - Advice on Potential Stakeholder Engagement on the Accessibility Bill	Released with some information withheld under Section 9(2)(a) of the OIA, to protect the privacy of natural persons
10	REP/WHK/23/7/696 - Accessibility Bill - Advice on Select Committee Report Recommendations	Released with some information withheld under Section 9(2)(a) of the OIA, to protect the privacy of natural persons