

Hon Simeon Brown

Minister for Energy
Minister of Local Government
Minister of Transport
Minister for Auckland
Deputy Leader of the House



OIA24-325

Andrew Riddell
fyi-request-27955-96625801@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Sir/Madam,

I refer to your email dated 7 August 2024, requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

“It appears, from news reports, that several ministers in the government have expert advisory groups to provide the minister with advice additional to that provided by the relevant ministry or department.

Do you have, or have you had, a transport expert advisory group set up?

If so, when was it set up, who are the members, what are its terms of reference, what specific matters have you asked for advice on, and what reports or communications have you received from that group. If it no longer operates when did the group end.”

There is one group within scope of your request: the Revenue Expert Advisory Group. This group was established on 8 May 2024 and its members were Scott Wilson and Barney Irvine. The terms of reference are attached as Document 1, and the one document prepared by the group is attached as Document 2. Cabinet agreed to disestablish this group on 9 July 2024 following completion of the work it was set up to undertake. It will be replaced by a stakeholder reference group to bring together expertise from across the transport sector, ensuring industry views help to shape the policy development process.

One other group which I did not set up but which I sponsor, is the iREX Ministerial Advisory Group. Information about this group is publicly available on the Beehive website. The terms of reference can be found here: www.beehive.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2024-02/MAG%20Terms%20of%20Reference.pdf and information about the membership of the group can be found here: www.beehive.govt.nz/release/independent-ferry-service-advisory-group-place

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.

Thank you again for writing.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Simeon Brown'.

Hon Simeon Brown
Minister of Transport