

# Hon Simeon Brown

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



OIA 24-337

Barry Garrick  
[fyi-request-28068-18b9421b@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-28068-18b9421b@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Barry,

I refer to your email dated August 16, 2024, requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*May I please have any correspondence, including text messages and the like, between yourself/your office and Greater Wellington councillors on the Lower North Island Rail Integrated Mobility Programme?"*

On September 12, 2024, my Office advised you that the timeframe for responding to the your request was being extended in line with section 15A(1)(b) of the Act, due to consultations necessary to provide a response.

Three documents are in scope, and Annex 1 outlines how the documents you requested have been treated under the Act. The first document is publicly available, with redactions under Section 9(2)(a) of the Act to protect the privacy of natural persons. The second document is withheld in its entirety and the third document has some information withheld under the following sections of the Act:

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 9(2)(a)     | to protect the privacy of natural persons  |
| 9(2)(b)(ii) | to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information |
| 9(2)(f)(iv) | the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials   |
| 18(d)       | the information requested is or will soon be publicly available.   |

With regard to the information that has been withheld under section 9 of the Act, I am satisfied that the reasons for withholding the information at this time are not outweighed by public interest considerations that would make it desirable to make the information available.

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](http://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**

## Annex 1 - Document Schedule

Doc#	Document	Decision on release
1	Letter from the Chair of Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) to the Minister of Transport, dated 7 June 2024	Previously released with some information withheld under sections 9(2)(b)(ii), and publicly available here: <a href="https://www.gw.govt.nz/assets/Documents/2024/08/Response-to-Minister-of-Transport-7-June-2024-Redacted.pdf">https://www.gw.govt.nz/assets/Documents/2024/08/Response-to-Minister-of-Transport-7-June-2024-Redacted.pdf</a>
2	Letter from Minister to GWRC Chair Daran Ponter dated 31 May	Withheld in full under sections 9(2)(a) and 9(2)(b)(ii).
3	Text exchange 24 April and 16, 23, 24 July 2024	Some information withheld under sections 9(2)(b)(ii), 9(2)(f)(iv) and as out of scope.