

John Luke

fyi-request-31682-
e9735561@requests.fyi.org.nz

25 August 2025

Conservation House
18 manners Street
Wellington 6011
doc.govt.nz

Ref: OIAD-5482

Tēnā koe John,

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation (DOC), received on 21 July 2025, in which you asked for:

'In light of recent news, I understand that Fale Andrew Lesā is a former Deputy Chair of the Auckland Conservation Board. Could you please confirm whether he did, in fact, hold this position? If so, from what period

Also, I would like requesting all documents and information you hold pertaining to the appointment of Fale Andrew Lesā to the Auckland Conservation Board.'

We have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA).

Your questions and our responses are listed below:

1. *In light of recent news, I understand that Fale Andrew Lesā is a former Deputy Chair of the Auckland Conservation Board. Could you please confirm whether he did, in fact, hold this position? If so, from what period*

Fale Andrew Lesā served as a member on the Auckland Conservation Board from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2021. He was elected to deputy chair on 23 February 2021 at the Auckland Conservation Board meeting until his term expired. The minutes of this meeting are publicly available and can be found under agenda item 24 [2021-02-23-auckland-conservation-board-minutes.pdf](#). Fale Lesā was not re-appointed at the end of his term.

2. *Also, I would like requesting all documents and information you hold pertaining to the appointment of Fale Andrew Lesā to the Auckland Conservation Board.*

In scope material is provided and accompanies our response as an attachment (items 1 – 4). For further information please refer to the documents schedule.

I have decided to release the relevant parts of the documents listed in the schedule below, subject to information being withheld under one or more of the following sections of the OIA, as applicable:

- personal information, under section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people.

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the OIA and determined there are no public interests that outweigh the grounds for withholding.

You are entitled to seek an investigation and review of my decision by writing to an Ombudsman as provided by section 28(3) of the OIA.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) and attached documents may be published on DOC's website.

Nāku noa, nā



Kelley Reeve
Director Governance and Government Services
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Document schedule

Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1	February 2018	Extract from the Auckland Conservation Board schedule of nominations for 2018 – Fale Lesa's details	Released in part
2(a)	10 May 2018	Briefing to Minister with recommendations	Released in part
2(b)	10 May 2018	Attachment A to briefing – Auckland Regional Operations Director's recommendations for appointment	Released in part
2(c)	10 May 2018	Attachment C to briefing – Comparison on NZCA and DOC recommendations	Released in part
3	27 June 2018	Extract from the Appointments and Honours Committee paper for conservation board appointments for 2018	Released in part
4(a)	13 June 2018	Page 1 of Fale Lesā CV form that accompanied the APH paper	Released in full
4(b)	13 June 2018	Page 2 of Fale Lesā CV form that accompanied the APH paper	Released in part