



Marcus Cook
fyi-request-9875-1740c37e@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Marcus

Thank you for your email of 18 March 2019 requesting the following information:

- *I would like information please on any proposed or intended school developments in the area from Massey, Auckland up to and including Helensville, including Riverhead and Huapai.*
- *Please include:*
 - *School Type (i.e. Primary or Secondary)*
 - *Address or location proposed*
 - *Documents related to reasons for not proceeding (if applicable)*
 - *Documents related to intended operational dates (if applicable)*

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

As communities change, so do the schooling needs of their children and young people. We manage school infrastructure and plan for growth and long term population shifts to make sure students have a modern and convenient local school to attend. To do this, we consider population projections, local council information and our own capacity and enrolment data. We always consult with local schools and their communities before we make significant changes, such as building a new school.

New Zealand's biggest growth area is Auckland. Statistics New Zealand forecasts that by 2030, there will be around 60,000 more school aged children in the Auckland region. We have a number of strategies and plans to increase network capacity, to cater for Auckland's rising school aged population. You can find more information on our Auckland Education Growth Plan website, at www.engaging.education.govt.nz

Your request relates to the West Auckland region, which is clearly illustrated in the map on the Engaging Education website (a link has been provided below). We have expanded the initial scope of your request because this is in line with how the Ministry is considering Auckland for the purpose of adding new schools to the wider network.

www.engaging.education.govt.nz/Westauckland-engagement11/photos/48445

Based on population growth in the West Auckland region, we are currently working on the expectation that six new schools will need to be added to the school network. Of these six, it is currently expected that five primary schools and one secondary school will be needed.

As you may already be aware, one primary school, Te Kura Tuatahi o Matua Ngaru (formerly known as Kumeu Primary School) was formally established by notice in the Education Gazette on 2 November 2016. Matua Ngaru opened for year 1-8 students in Term 1 2019 and is located at 47 & 49 Gilbransen Road, Kumeu. Matua Ngaru is intended to be able to accommodate 560 students.

A second primary school, Scott Point Primary School, was announced by Minister Hipkins, with \$22.8 million allocated in Budget 2018. The School was formally established by notice in the Education Gazette on 2 March 2019 and will be located at 11 Scott Road, Hobsonville. Scott Point has currently been funded for 650 students, and is planned to open in 2021.

In relation to both of these schools, Education Reports for the Minister of Education recommending the establishment of each school detail the process taken to reach these decisions and include the Minister's notes approving these recommendations.

The first report, for Matua Ngaru, is released to you in full. The second report is refused under section 18(d) of the Act, as it will be publicly available soon on the Ministry website.

In relation to the other three primary schools and one secondary school intended for West Auckland, I am withholding all details of these schools under sections 9(2)(i) of the Act, because the withholding of this information is necessary to enable a Minister of the Crown or any department or organisation holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.

In relation to the part of your request asking for documents related to schools not proceeding, I am refusing this part of your request under section 18(e) of the Act, as the information requested does not exist. Because of the very high student growth in the wider Auckland region, we have not decided against proceeding with any schools in West Auckland.

You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely



Susan Howan
Acting Deputy Secretary
Sector Enablement and Support

cc Isabel Evans, Director of Education for Auckland