

OC240524

30 May 2024

[REDACTED]
Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

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

*“Under the Official Information Act, can I please request:
Any correspondence/reports about perceived and real conflicts of interests relating to Simon Bridges holding the NZTA chair role since he was selected as the preferred candidate. Can this please include any reaction from industry groups?”*

Annex One (at the end of this letter) records all the references to Hon Simon Bridges’ conflicts of interest and the industry reaction to his appointment across the two released bundles of documents.

All the information that relates to Hon Simon Bridges’ appointment to the NZTA Board including his conflicts of interest and the industry’s reaction, has been proactively released to our website under the heading ‘New Zealand Transport Agency Chair Appointment 2024, OC240267’ on 20 May 2024. The link to the website is provided here: <https://www.transport.govt.nz/documents-and-publications/SearchForm/?Keyword=OC240267>.

Note that there are two parts publicised on the Ministry of Transport’s website: Part 1 (160 pages) and Part 2 (47 pages).

The Ministry is refusing your request under the following section of the Act:

18(d) the information requested is or will soon be publicly 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

Nāku noa, nā



Harriet Shelton
Manager, Crown Entity Monitoring

Annex One – References to Hon Simon Bridges’ conflicts of interest, and the industry reaction to his appointment.

Item	Title	References
Item three	OC231137: Briefing- NZ Transport Agency Board – Shortlist for Chair	Pages 19-20, 26 of Part 1
Item four	OC240087: Briefing -NZ Transport Agency – Recommendations on Board Chair appointment	Pages 38, 40-41 of Part 1
Item five	OC240153: New Zealand Transport Agency Cabinet paper to progress Chair appointment	Page 44 of Part 1
Item six	Uploaded Cabinet Paper - NZ Transport Agency Chair Appointment	Pages 48 – 49 of Part 1
Item seven	Uploaded Org Chart and CV Form - NZ Transport Agency - Organisation and Candidate CV forms	Page 52 of Part 1
Item eight	Talking Points for CAB NZTA Chair Appointment	Page 56 of Part 1 Regarding the industry reaction, refer to page 56 of Part 1
Item nine	Appointment Letter	Pages 57 – 58 of Part 1
Item ten	Collated Emails	Pages 118, 130 of Part 1 Pages 4 – 11, 14, 19 of Part 2 Regarding the industry reaction, refer to pages 40 - 41 of Part 2.