


OC240617

4 July 2024

Tēnā koe 

I refer to your email dated 5 June 2024, requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- “All written advice including briefings, memos, aide memoirs, provided to Ministers on the:*
- *decision to rescope the Retaining and Recruiting Bus Drivers initiative*
  - *Land Transport (Clean Vehicle Standard) Amendment Bill*
  - *funding electric vehicle charging*
  - *decision to rescope the Community Connect Programme*
  - *decision to reduce funding allocated to the Transport Choices and Vehicle Kilometres Travelled Reduction Programme”*

23 documents fall within the scope of your request and are detailed in the document schedule attached as Annex 1. The schedule outlines how the documents you requested have been treated under the Act.

Two documents that are being released are as excerpts of relevant material from a larger and mostly out-of-scope document, under section 16(1)(e) of the Act. That document was previously proactively released with this material withheld under active consideration, and this proactive release is available here: <https://www.transport.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Weekly-Reports-to-the-Minister-and-Associate-Minister-of-Transport-for-March-2024.pdf>.

Certain information is withheld under the following sections of the Act:

- 9(2)(f)(iv) to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials

Six documents are being withheld in full under section 9(2)(f)(iv) as these remain under active consideration by the Minister of Transport.

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.

I am refusing 15 documents in scope of your request under the following section of the Act:

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

Ten of the documents refused under section 18(d) are due to be released as part of the Budget 2024 proactive release process and will be available on the Ministry of Transport's website shortly. Where documents have been refused under section 18(d) and are already publicly available, I have provided links to these in the document schedule.

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)

The Ministry publishes our Official Information Act responses and the information contained in our reply to you may be published on the Ministry website. Before publishing we will remove any personal or identifiable information.

Nāku noa, nā



Jessica Ranger

**Manager, Urban Development and Public Transport**

## Annex 1: Document Schedule

Table 1 OC240617 Document Schedule

Doc #	Reference number	Date	Title of Document	Decision on request
1	OC231056	15/12/2023	Returning and reallocating transport choices funding	Refused under section 18(d), part of the Budget proactive release package.
2	OC231015	07/12/2023	Further information on Vote Transport initiatives expected to be considered in the Mini Budget	Refused under section 18(d), part of the Budget proactive release package.
3	OC240474	02/05/2024	Changes to Budget 2024 public transport decisions	Withheld in full under section 9(2)(f)(iv).
4	OC231061	21/12/2023	Budget 2024: Development of a Vote Transport budget package and baseline savings proposal	Refused under section 18(d), part of the Budget proactive release package.
5	OC240036	25/01/2024	Aide Memoire: Additional Budget 2024 information	Refused under section 18(d), part of the Budget proactive release package.
6	OC240075	09/02/2024	Budget 2024 – Proposed Vote Transport package for submission	Refused under section 18(d), part of the Budget proactive release package.
7	OC240209	08/03/2024	Budget 2024 bilateral meeting advice	Refused under section 18(d), part of the Budget proactive release package.
8	OC240213	08/03/2024	Vote Transport Budget 2024 Technical Package	Refused under section 18(d), part of the Budget proactive release package.
9	OC240571	28/05/2024	Improving Conditions for Bus Drivers	Refused under section 18(d), part of the Budget proactive release package.
10	-	01/05/2024	Budget 24 additional proposals	Refused under section 18(d), part of the Budget proactive release package.
11	-	02/05/2024	Budget 24 additional proposals - MoT Changes	Refused under section 18(d), part of the Budget proactive release package.
12	OC230964	14/02/2024	Initial Briefing on EV charging network and Infrastructure	Refused under section 18(d) as the information requested is publicly available on the Ministry's website here: <a href="https://www.transport.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/OC240490-Proactive-release-Combined-documents-Redacted.pdf">https://www.transport.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/OC240490-Proactive-release-Combined-documents-Redacted.pdf</a>
13	OC240440	01/05/2024	Objectives and options for the co-investment model for	Withheld in full under section 9(2)(f)(iv).

Doc #	Reference number	Date	Title of Document	Decision on request
			EV charging infrastructure	
14	OC240520	04/06/2024	Options for EV charging co-investment model	Withheld in full under section 9(2)(f)(iv).
15	OC240160	06/03/2024	Update on issues related to the Clean Car Importer Standard	Refused under section 18(d) as the information requested is or will soon be publicly available.
16	OC240279	25/03/2024	Briefing: Clean Vehicle Standard Budget Day legislation	Refused under section 18(d) as the information requested is or will soon be publicly available.
17	OC240280	25/03/2024	Clean Vehicle Standard- Budget night legislation - Cabinet paper	Refused under section 18(d) as the information requested is or will soon be publicly available.
18	-	01/02/2024	Weekly Reports February EV Charging	Refused under section 18(d) as the information requested is publicly available on the Ministry's website here: <a href="https://www.transport.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Weekly-Reports-to-the-Minister-of-Transport-for-February-2024.pdf">https://www.transport.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Weekly-Reports-to-the-Minister-of-Transport-for-February-2024.pdf</a>
19	-	01/03/2024	Weekly Report Week Ending 1 March - EV Charging	Excerpt from Weekly Report to the Minister of Transport as attached, released in full.
20	-	08/03/2024	Weekly Report Week Ending 8 March - Clean Car	Excerpt from Weekly Report to the Minister of Transport as attached, some information withheld under section 9(2)(f)(iv).
21	-	17/04/2024	Weekly Report Week Ending 17 April - Clean Car	Withheld in full under section 9(2)(f)(iv).
22	-	01/04/2024	Weekly Reports April - EV Charging	Withheld in full under section 9(2)(f)(iv).
23	-	01/05/2024	Weekly Reports May - EV Charging	Withheld in full under section 9(2)(f)(iv).

Title	Lead agency	Minister and Committee	Estimated timing to Cabinet Committee
Update on electric vehicle charging infrastructure and next steps	Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment	Hon Simeon Brown Minister for Energy and Minister of Transport	To be confirmed with the Office of the Minister for Energy
<b>Comment</b>			
<p>We are working closely with MBIE and Energy Efficiency &amp; Conservation Authority (EECA) in the drafting of this Cabinet paper.</p> <p>This paper will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provide an update on the current status of the public electric vehicle charging network,</li> <li>• provide Cabinet high-level visibility of activity underway to create an effective EV charging ecosystem (including the timeline for reviewing regulatory interventions and measures to provide data and information to industry),</li> <li>• provide Cabinet visibility of the timeline for the delivery of the cost-benefit analysis,</li> <li>• outline plans and timing for changes to government co-funding settings, and</li> <li>• seek Cabinet's agreement in the interim for EECA to progress funding rounds.</li> </ul> <p><i>Responsibility: Siobhan Routledge, Acting DCE, Policy Group</i></p>			<p><b>Next steps:</b></p> <p>MBIE will provide you with a draft Cabinet paper.</p>

Last week the Ministry provided you a briefing titled 'Update on Issues Related to the Clean Car Importer Standard'. This briefing contained information and recommendations with respect to moving to a cost recovery approach for the administration costs of Clean Car Importer Standard. After this briefing was provided to you, the Ministry and NZTA officials have been in further discussions on moving to a cost recovery approach. § 9(2)(f)(iv)

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**Next steps:**

§ 9(2)(f)(iv)

RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT 1982