



1 July 2019

Jake Preston
fyi-request-10244-029ecd34@requests.fyi.org.nz

Reference: OIA-2018/19-0587

Dear Jake Preston

Official Information Act request for Andrea Mulder's research materials relating to CERA Legacy Issues Work

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) received on 3 May 2019. You requested:

"I would like to request all research materials, notes and recollections of the work that Andrea Mulder undertook for CERA on Legacy Issues. This research was referenced a [n]umber of times in MBIE Project Update Notes, "Facilitating the Canterbury Rebuild Project Update" including the notes dated 7 April 2014. It refers to Information gap workshops and meetings with Treasury. I would like copies of all materials and recollections of this research, including any working notes, emails research instruments used and interim and final documents which were a result of this research."

I decided under section 15A of the Act to extend the time limit on your request by an additional 20 working days because your request necessitated a search through a large quantity of information, and consultations were needed before a decision could be made.

Following a search of the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority (CERA) electronic document archive, I can advise that Andrea Mulder was an employee within CERA's Housing Recovery Programme during at least part of the relevant period. In particular, Ms Mulder appears to have worked on a collaborative CERA-MBIE (Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment) project: *Canterbury Earthquake Damage and Repair* (CEDAR). CERA's interest in that project was noted as "avoiding the recovery leaving a legacy of unrepaired or poorly repaired/rebuilt houses". This is potentially the reference to Legacy Issues noted in your request.

Despite having searched over 1,500 potential documents, we have been unable to locate any documents that fall within the scope of your request other than a contract for services with a company named Axis Building Consultants (attached). I have decided to release this document to you in full.

The brief of services in the above mentioned contract indicates 14 reports for individual properties were expected. We have been unable to locate any of these reports within CERA's document archive. Accordingly, I must refuse your request under section 18(e), to the extent that further documents may exist, because despite reasonable efforts to locate them, they cannot be found.

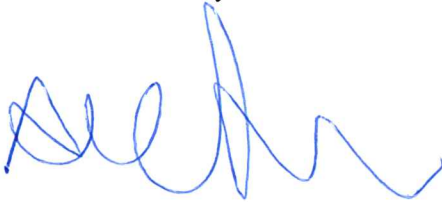
During the assessment of potential documents, some information that may be of assistance to you, despite not falling within the scope of information you requested, was identified. The

attached contract for services covered Phase I of a multi-phased project. Phase I appears to have been to undertake an assessment of a small group of properties where repairs were alleged to be substandard or non-compliant. The intention was to use the results of that research (despite the fact that it was not a statistically valid sample) as a gauge as to whether a more widely ranging assessment was warranted. Phase II covered the wider assessment of around 100 properties and the final report for that research is available on the MBIE website at <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/dmsdocument/101-home-inspection-survey-report-pdf>.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

We do not intend to publish this response on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's website.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Anne Shaw', with a stylized, cursive script.

Anne Shaw
Executive Director, Greater Christchurch Group