



**National Headquarters**

Level 12  
80 The Terrace  
PO Box 2133  
Wellington  
New Zealand

Phone +64 4 496 3600

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Richard Clark

By email: [fyi-request-12102-fd6b768d@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-12102-fd6b768d@requests.fyi.org.nz)  
[fyi-request-12103-f681e97d@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-12103-f681e97d@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Richard

**Information Request – Localities Dataset**

I refer to your official information requests dated 28 January 2020 asking for the following information regarding the Localities Dataset:

- *Fire and Emergency received legal advice on the potential to publish the Localities Dataset in accordance with the Creative Commons licencing framework and the nature of measures available to mitigate the Public Risk in that context. Please provide a copy of the legal advice received and any information provided to the legal advisor for the preparation of the advice.*
- *Fire and Emergency considered the resourcing and prioritisation of work required to implement changes to the management, licencing, and provision of the Dataset identified to LINZ by stakeholders surveyed. It was concluded that Fire and Emergency did not have the resource available to prioritise the required actions at that point in time. Please provide a copy of any communications relating to the above statement, expected to include at least an evaluation of the resources and priorities needed, the required actions and the decision.*

In regard to your request for a copy of the legal advice, a decision has been made to withhold this information under section 9(2)(h) of the Official Information Act (OIA). Fire and Emergency New Zealand considers that the withholding of the information is necessary to enable us to maintain legal professional privilege.

Fire and Emergency does not consider that, in the circumstances of this particular case, the withholding of this information is outweighed by other considerations which render it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available.

Fire and Emergency is refusing your request for copies of the resourcing and prioritisation of work decisions made in relation to the implementation of changes to the management, licencing and provision of the Dataset under section 18(e) of the OIA.

The document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found. Resourcing decisions are made routinely both formally and informally and are not always associated with the generation of documentation.

In this particular case, the changes to the Dataset identified by Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) stakeholders will require significant resources to scope and undertake, will require engagement with external stakeholders, and will rely on a small team of subject matter experts at Fire and Emergency. That team's efforts have been, and continue to be, focused on its existing 2019/20 priority list.

For context, the changes to the management, licencing, and provision of the Dataset identified by LINZ stakeholders included the following:

- (a) supply Suburbs under Creative Commons CC-BY 4 licensing
- (b) publish Suburbs as both an Esri REST and OGC WFS service
- (c) publish Suburbs on data.govt.nz to ensure the data is discoverable
- (d) update metadata to include geographic extent and purpose
- (e) facilitate external agencies to provide feedback on preferred boundaries and naming of suburbs
- (f) review the attribution of Suburbs to simplify the existing information and add Territorial Authority as an attribute
- (g) ensure Suburbs are associated with official naming conventions
- (h) add population count attribute to each suburb.

The following document published by LINZ and titled *Key Datasets for Resilience & Climate Change Data Improvement Plan 2019/20* may be of interest to you. A copy of that document is available on the LINZ website:

[www.linz.govt.nz/sites/default/files/media/doc/key\\_datasets\\_for\\_resilience\\_and\\_climate\\_change\\_-\\_data\\_improvement\\_plan\\_2019\\_20.pdf](http://www.linz.govt.nz/sites/default/files/media/doc/key_datasets_for_resilience_and_climate_change_-_data_improvement_plan_2019_20.pdf).

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Raewyn Bleakley  
Deputy Chief Executive, Office of the Chief Executive