

7 February 2023

Leon Salter
fyi-request-21455-ab124cc4@requests.fyi.org.nz

REF: OIA-11734

Dear Leon

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 19 December 2022 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

...can I please have all information which led to a decision not to consult on a speed limit reduction on this section of SH2 [Kaitoke to Te Mārua and Brown Owl]?

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency uses a tool called MegaMaps (Road to Zero edition) to inform decisions for speed reviews. The safe and appropriate speed (SaAS) identified by MegaMaps for the section of State Highway 2 (SH2) between Kaitoke and Te Mārua is 80km/h the current posted speed. As the SaAS is the same as the posted speed, no further investigation was undertaken, and the corridor has not been included in the Interim State Highway Speed Management Plan. Waka Kotahi does not consider 70km/h is appropriate as an alternative speed limit.

The SaAS identified by MegaMaps for each corridor considers a number of factors. This includes the function and use of the road, crash and injury risks, characteristics of the road and roadsides, the number of intersections, the mean operating speed of the road and traffic volumes. A desktop investigation against the speed management guide criteria is then undertaken, which deemed that the environment would not support a lower speed limit on this corridor.

The SaAS is reassessed if there are changes to these factors. For example, the section from Twin Lakes Road to Brown Owl will be reassessed for the 2024-27 State Highway Speed Management Plan as we are aware of potential infrastructure works that may influence the SaAS.

The Plateau School on Molloys Road did not influence the assessment of this corridor of SH2 as its zone of influence does not include any part of the corridor. The school is situated some distance from the state highway and on a local road. For students needing to cross the state highway, there is an underpass that enables safe crossing of the corridor.

If you would like to discuss this reply with Waka Kotahi, please contact Ministerial Services by email at official.correspondence@nzta.govt.nz

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "V C Browne". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "V" and "C".

Vanessa Browne

National Manager Programmes and Standards