

13 July 2023

Darren Conway
fyi-request-22912-df1ab7f2@requests.fyi.org.nz

REF: OIA-12765

Dear Darren

Decision on request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 25 May 2023 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

I am seeking the following types of documents produced or updated 2023 for the Ngā Ūranga to Pito-One Shared Cycle way:

- *Health & Safety in Design Register*
- *Design Reviews*
- *Design Safety Audits and Assessments*
- *Meeting minutes where safety aspects of the design was recorded, and/or decisions made that might affect safety.*

On 23 June 2023, I wrote to you to extend the time for us to respond to your request, due to the need to search through a large quantity of information you requested. I am now able to provide you with a decision on your request.

I have made a decision to grant your request for the Health and Safety in Design Register, Design Safety Audits and Assessments and Meeting minutes involving safety aspects of the project. These documents are still in the process of being produced and therefore, they are not yet ready to be released to you. We will release these documents to you once they have been prepared for release, without undue delay. This will be on or before 29 September 2023.

I am withholding your request for design Safety Audits and Assessments under section 9(2)(g)(i). This section allows for information to be withheld where withholding is necessary to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by or between employees of any department or organisation in the course of their duty. It is essential that during the audit and assessment process, the staff involved, from multiple agencies, are able to express their opinions in a free and frank way, in order to ensure a robust and safe design is arrived upon.

With respect to the information that has been withheld, I do not consider there are any other factors which would render it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available.

Under section 28 of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision to withhold this information refuse this request. The contact details for the Ombudsman can be located at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

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

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'JS', is positioned below the 'Yours sincerely' text.

James Sorensen
Manager, Ministerial Services - Enterprise