

Reference: 20190013

22 January 2019

[fyi-request-9351-5681e0c6@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-9351-5681e0c6@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear anonymous user of the fyi.org.nz website

Thank you for your Official Information Act request, received on 8 January 2019. You requested:

*“Could you please provide all reports, studies, memorandums, aide memoirs produced for the NZ government investment of 45% of shares in Chorus.”*

As you may be aware, the previous Government introduced the ultra-fast broadband (UFB) programme, which involved the Crown investing \$1.7 billion in the rollout of faster internet infrastructure across New Zealand. As part of this investment, a Crown-owned company named Crown Infrastructure Partners (CIP, formerly known as Crown Fibre Holdings) subscribed for both debt and equity securities in Chorus.

There are two classes of these Chorus equity securities, known as CIP1 and CIP2. The full terms of these equity securities are described in two documents that can be found on this page on the Chorus website: <https://company.chorus.co.nz/reports>

Please see the documents “Summary of CIP1 Securities” and “Summary of CIP2 Securities” under the heading “Other financial information” towards the bottom of the page.

In brief, the CIP1 equity securities are a unique class of security that carry no right to vote at meetings of holders of Chorus shares, but entitle the holder to a right to a repayment preference on liquidation and additional rights that relate to Chorus’ performance under its UFB contract with CIP. Dividends become payable on a portion of the CIP1 equity securities from 2025 onwards, with the portion of CIP1 equity securities that attract dividends increasing over time. The same applies to the CIP2 equity securities, except that dividends become payable from 2030 onwards.

Information regarding the UFB programme can be found here:

<https://www.mbie.govt.nz/science-and-technology/it-communications-and-broadband/fast-broadband/>

Given this your request for “all reports, studies, memorandums, aide memoirs produced for the NZ government investment of 45% of shares in Chorus” is refused under section 18(f) of the Official Information Act, on the grounds that the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research; and under section 18(d), on the grounds that some of the information you are requesting is publicly available.

Please note that this letter may be published on the Treasury website.

This reply addresses the information you requested. You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision.

Yours sincerely



Juston Anderson

**Acting Manager, Commercial Performance**