



07 FEB 2020

Josh Thorpe
josh@thorpeprocess.com

Dear Josh

Thank you for your emails of 11 and 12 December 2019 requesting information relating to the proposed changes to the Cashmere High School enrolment zone.

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

Our responses to the individual parts of your two requests are set out below.

Under the Education Act 1989, Boards of Trustees decide which areas they wish to propose as an amendment to their current enrolment scheme in order to prevent overcrowding at their school. This includes which areas they wish to withdraw from. A Board can only begin developing an enrolment scheme or amendment to an enrolment scheme once it has received a written notice from the Ministry of Education that there is, or is likely to be, further overcrowding at the school. When developing a proposed enrolment scheme amendment, a board must consult with whatever persons and organisation it considers appropriate including parents of students at the school, parents living in the area for which the school is a reasonably convenient school, students and prospective students and the boards of other schools that could be affected by the proposed enrolment scheme.

Following consultation, Cashmere High School will consider all feedback and then make their recommendation to us.

The Secretary for Education may approve the proposed enrolment scheme (Section 111 (1)) if satisfied, among other areas, that the scheme complies with the purpose and principles of enrolment schemes set out in the Education Act 1989, that the definition of the school's proposed home zone ensures that students can attend a reasonably convenient school, and that the proposed scheme enables the Secretary of Education to make the best use of existing networks of State schools.

Cashmere High School has worked with the data provided by the Ministry of Education, included in this request, to decide which areas it is proposing to withdraw from their current enrolment scheme.

Request of 11 December 2019

I'm conducting some data analysis on behalf of a community group in Christchurch, and would appreciate it if you are able to provide me some data.

Attached is a map from some previous MoE analysis – with reference to this, I'd like to get the following data for each year from 2012-2019:

- State co-ed Year 9 students in each area.
- Cashmere High School Year 9 students in each area.

I assume the map areas are standard MoE/StatsNZ statistical areas. Let me know if you are able to fulfil this request or require any further clarification.

We only hold the data requested for 2017 and 2019. Documents 1 and 2, as detailed in **Appendix A** attached to the response, contain this data. Please note that the 'study areas' in the 2017 and 2019 data differ and therefore cannot be directly compared. The blocks on the two maps are different meaning the count of students is different.

We are refusing the remainder of the request for data in respect of the years 2012 to 2016 and 2018 under section 18(e) of the Act as *the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist*.

Request of 12 December 2019

1. *Correspondence provided to the school from MoE in relation to the request of the CHS for permission to amend the zone.*
2. *Supporting information in the form of data, analysts reports, or other MoE presentations provided to CHS in relation to the amendment, either in the lead up to the board's application or subsequently.*
4. *Any communications provided to CHS from MoE that recommended or required certain geographic areas in the current enrolment home zone to be considered for potential removal from the zone, or any areas to be kept 'off the table' for consideration.*

We have identified seven documents within scope of parts 1, 2 and 4 of your request. These are detailed, together with our decisions as to their release, in the table attached to the proposed response as **Appendix A**.

We have withheld information in all seven documents under section 9(2)(a) of the Act to protect the privacy of certain individuals.

3. *Any assessment undertaken by MoE or CHS with respect to the choice of appropriate pathway under Appendix C of the Greater Christchurch State Secondary Schools Enrolment Memorandum of Understanding (ie. amendment of zone vs roll growth funding).*

There has not been an assessment undertaken by the Ministry or Cashmere High School with respect to the choice of appropriate pathway under Appendix C of the Greater Christchurch State Secondary Schools Enrolment Memorandum of Understanding.

We are therefore refusing part 3 of your request under section 18(e) of the Act as *the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist*.

The only 'assessment' has been discussions between Cashmere High School and the Ministry around when to undertake the enrolment scheme amendment. In May 2019 the School talked to the Ministry about their pre-enrolment numbers for 2020 and expressed their concern about being over-crowded and what they needed to do to reduce their zone.

5. Any updates or reviews that have been undertaken subsequent to the original October 2017 KPMG/MoE 'A Case for Change' report that have reassessed the validity of the modelling and assumptions based on updated data.

There have not been any updates or reviews undertaken by the Ministry subsequent to the October 2017 KPMG/Ministry *A case for Change* report.

We are therefore refusing part 5 of your request under section 18(e) of the Act *as the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist.*

I have considered the public interest considerations favouring the release of the information I am withholding under the Act and have identified no public interest considerations favouring its release.

Thank you again for your email. You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely



Katrina Casey
Deputy Secretary
Sector Enablement and Support

Cc. Coralanne Child, Director of Education for Canterbury

OIAs 1216479/1216240 - APPENDIX A – Table of Documents

Document Number	Date	Description	Part of the request	Decision on Release
1.	March 2017	<i>Count of State School Students within the Cashmere High School Enrolment School Home Zone as at March 2017</i>	OIA 1216479	Release in full.
2.	September 2019	<i>Count of State School Students within the Cashmere High School Enrolment School Home Zone as at March 2019</i>	OIA 1216479	Release in full.
3.	28 August 2019	<i>Emails and attachments</i>	1, 2 and 4 OIA 1216240	Release in Part. Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of the individuals concerned.
4.	30 August and 3 September 2019	<i>Emails</i>	1, 2 and 4 OIA 1216240	Release in Part. Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of the individuals concerned.
5.	4 September 2019	<i>Emails and attachments</i>	1, 2 and 4 OIA 1216240	Release in Part. Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of the individuals concerned.
6.	24 September 2019	<i>Emails</i>	1, 2 and 4 OIA 1216240	Release in Part. Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
7.	24 and 26 September 2019	<i>Email and letter</i>	1, 2 and 4 OIA 1216240	Release in Part. Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of the individuals concerned.
8.	29 October 2019	<i>Email and attachments</i>	1, 2 and 4 OIA 1216240	Release in Part. Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
9.	8 November 2019	<i>Emails and attachments</i>	1, 2 and 4 OIA 1216240	Release in Part. Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.