



14 June 2021

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Fyi-request-15446-

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Tēnā koe G S

Your Official Information Act request OIA 20/21-0662

Thank you for your email of 18 May 2021 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

'...a copy of all work undertaken by DIA on whether or not to require Councils to only use land value rating.'

As identified by the 21 January 2021 Ministry of Housing and Urban Development proactive release, the Department of Internal Affairs prepared draft advice for the Minister of Local Government, Hon Nanaia Mahuta, on the issue of land value for rating purposes. The meeting for which the advice was prepared did not eventuate, and as such the advice was never finalised. This document has been withheld under section 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act, to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions.

On 3 March 2021, the Minister of Local Government attended the 27th Central-Local Government Forum. As part of the preparation for this event, a wide-ranging briefing was provided that touched on some of the issues related to land value rating. Attached is the information that falls within scope of your request, released as an excerpt. This is pursuant to section 16(1) of the Act, which provides that where the information requested by any person is comprised in a document, that information may be made available by giving an excerpt.

Some of the information in the excerpt is withheld under section 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act, to protect the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to Ministers of the Crown or members of organisations.

As is required by section 9(1) of the Act, I have considered whether the grounds for withholding information from this response are outweighed by other considerations which would make it desirable, in the public interest, to make that information available. In this instance, I do not consider that to be the case.

You have the right, under section 28(3) of the Act, to make a complaint to the Office of the Ombudsman and seek an investigation and review of my response to your request. The contact address is: Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143. Alternatively, you can phone 0800 802 602 or email info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

We intend to publish our response to your request made under the Act on our website www.dia.govt.nz/Official-Information-Act-requests-2. This letter, with your personal details removed, will be published in its entirety. Consistent with the Act, publishing responses increases the availability of information to the public and helps promote balanced public debate.

Nāku noa, nā



Anita Balakrishnan
Tumuaki | Director
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