

Hon Dr Megan Woods

MP for Wigram

Minister of Housing

Minister of Energy and Resources

Minister of Research, Science and Innovation

Associate Minister of Finance



Matthew Hooton

fyi-request-15642-9f0d4d78@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Matthew

Thank you for your email of 9 June 2021 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

all advice you, or your officials, have received since 29 March 2021 on possible and/or actual shortages of materials required for building houses in New Zealand.

Such materials include but are not limited to timber, concrete, cement, plaster, and home appliances.

By advice, I mean formal written advice based on data collection and analysis. But I also include more informal advice, including verbal advice, and that based on anecdote.

I have identified an email and a letter from Kāinga Ora, and excerpts from four papers in scope of your request. Mobile phone numbers have been withheld from the email under section 9(2)(a) of the Act to protect the privacy of natural persons.

Excerpts from an additional document were also identified in scope (BRF20/21050941). However, the information that paper relates to is still under active consideration and is withheld under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act, to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.

I recently responded to written questions for the 2021/22 Estimates for Vote Housing and Urban Development. Questions 213 and 214 asked about the shortage of building materials and products. My responses are available on the Parliament website here: www.parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/submissions-and-advice/document/53SCSS_EVI_111477_SS1757/minister-of-housing-responses-to-written-questions-26-226.

In terms of section 9(1) of the Act, I am satisfied that, in the circumstances, the decision to withhold information under section 9 of the Act is not outweighed by other considerations that render it desirable to make the information available in the public interest.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of my response by the Ombudsman, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on the Ombudsman's website www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Woods'.

Hon Dr Megan Woods
Minister of Housing

Document schedule

Documents released			
Ref	Date	Title	Sections of the Act applied
BRF20/21040925	6 May 2021	Hastings place-based approach: progress report to 31 March 2021	N/A
	May	Housing Market Update May 2021	N/A
IREQ20/21050939	28 May 2021	Housing Market Update – May 2021	N/A
	April	Housing Market Dashboard – April 2021	N/A
AH 21 024	31 March 2021	Construction Materials Supply Chain – Risk and Management	N/A
	29 March 2021	Response – Urgent feedback required	9(2)(a)