OIA22-0739

Geoff Reid fyi-request-20557-c0f1f4c7@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Geoff Reid

Thank you for your email of 14 September 2022 requesting information relating to the One Billion Trees Fund (1BT) project. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

You requested the following:

Please provide the following under the Official Information Act 1982:

- -The results of the survival audit undertaken for the One Billion Trees Fund for 2020 & 2021. -The overall cost of the scheme.
- -Please include the following for each project, but not limited to; the year planting took place, the name of the planting block and its location, area of land planted out, the species used, how much funding was allocated, and the survival rates.

The 1BT 30-month monitoring and evaluation report is the latest performance report and is publicly available on the MPI website here: https://mpi.govt.nz/dmsdocument/49315/direct.

As of 25 September 2022, the total cost of contracted projects is \$166,782,321.

Your request for information for each project has been considered by the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI). However, MPI believes it important to protect the privacy of individuals who applied for funding under this fund. Therefore, information identifying the name of the planting block and their location is withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA to protect the privacy of natural persons.

MPI is satisfied that in the circumstances of this case, the withholding of the information is not outweighed by other considerations which render it desirable in the public interest to make the information available.

MPI does not have a complete data set of the results of all the individual inspections and audits of individual Planting Grant Projects. Appendix One provides you with the information we hold.

Appendix One contains anonymised information with the following list of inspection information comprising:

- Region
- Planting Year
- Inspection Year
- Species (1 Billion Trees planting type)
- Stocking Rate (stems per hectare planted)
- Survival percentage
- Hectares
- Amount Paid (for the completed hectares)

MPI does not hold data on other tree types. Each planting is identified by the planting type under which the 1BT funding levels were set. These comprise:

- Mixed native
- Manuka\kanuka
- Reversion
- Other exotic
- Pinus radiata.

For more information on the milestone inspection process and establishment standards see <u>this</u> <u>fact sheet</u> on the MPI web site.

I trust the information provided is of assistance. Should you have any concerns with this response, I would encourage you to raise these with MPI at Official.InformationAct@mpi.govt.nz. Alternatively, you are advised of your right to also raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. Contact details are: Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143 or at info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Yours sincerely

Do L Word.

Debbie Ward

Director, Operational Programme Delivery (Acting)