



Level 9, 44 The Terrace

PO Box 27048

Wellington, New Zealand 6141

P +64 4 462 5200

www.tec.govt.nz

Ref: OI-23-00635

4 October 2023

Matthew Hooton

fyi-request-23427-4c0a4a78@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Matthew

Thank you for your request, received on 7 July 2023, for the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- *All written advice prepared by the TEC over the last ten years for ministers and other government agencies on the question of a new Medical School at the University of Waikato, including arguments made for and against*

As your request is broad in nature and covers a large time period, we asked whether you would consider refining your request in order to enable more timely provision of information. You declined to refine your request, with valid reasons, and therefore on 2 August 2023 we extended your request to 6 October 2023 due to the large quantity of information sought and the consultation necessary. This was in accordance with the following reasons under the Act:

- 15A(1)(a) – the request is for a large quantity of official information or necessitates a search through a large quantity of information and meeting the original time limit would unreasonably interfere with the operations of the Department
- 15A(1)(b) – consultations necessary to make a decision on the request are such that a proper response to the request cannot reasonably be made within the original time limit

I am now releasing the information referenced in the attached table. For your information, in the absence of any further clarification or refinement of your request, we interpreted the scope to:

- include drafted correspondence (e.g., letters) that form part of an advice paper i.e., appendices to an aide-memoire or briefing
- exclude emails unless they were to the parties identified in your request and contained advice e.g., solely internal emails are out of scope
- exclude drafts for Ministerial replies to correspondence
- include info about the University of Auckland and University of Otago alternative proposal, for a School of Rural Health, where the context runs parallel to past proposals for a medical school at the University of Waikato.

Due to the size of the attachments, we will need to separate our response into two batches.



In accordance with the Official Information Act, I am withholding some information in the released documents. Redactions are clearly marked in the documents, with the following reasons for the redactions, as applicable:

- personal contact details of officials, under section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people,
- free and frank advice, under section 9(2)(g)(i) – the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to Ministers of the Crown or officers and employees of any public service agency in the course of their duty,
- maintain the effective conduct of public affairs, under section 9(2)(g)(ii) – the protection of such Ministers [, members of organisations], officers, and employees from improper pressure or harassment

Information that is out of scope of the request has also been redacted.

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

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



Tim Fowler
Chief Executive
Tertiary Education Commission

Information released under the Official Information Act (1982)

Item No	Document Type	Title	Release
1	Aide-memoire	AM-16-00472 University of Waikato VC Meeting	Partial release, sections out of scope
2	Advice	X-16-00924 Medical Deans response to a proposed 3rd medical programme at Waikato University	Redacted: 9(2)(a), 9(2)(g)(ii)
3	Briefing	B-16-01142 Meeting to discuss the University of Waikato's business case for a new medical school	Redacted: 9(2)(a)
4	Briefing	B-16-01163 Proposed response to Waikato's business case for new med school	Redacted: 9(2)(a)
5	Briefing	B-16-01202 Proposed new medical school in Waikato region – PM briefing	Redacted: 9(2)(a)
6	Briefing	B-16-01276 Meeting with Deans of Auckland, Otago Medical Schools	Redacted: 9(2)(a)
7	Aide-memoire	AM-17-00011 Waikato Medical School Proposal	Release in full
8	Attachment	AM-17-00011 Waikato Medical School attachment	Release in full
9	Briefing	B-17-00052 Meeting with Rt Hon, Jim Bolger, Chancellor of the University of Waikato	Redacted: 9(2)(a) Partial release, sections out of scope
10	Briefing	B-17-00101 Visit to the University of Waikato	Partial release, sections out of scope
11	Attachment	B-17-00101 Key Facts - UoW Attachment 2	Redacted: 9(2)(a)

12	Advice	X-17-00199 One page timeline of third medical school proposal	Redacted: 9(2)(a), 9(2)(g)(ii)
13	Aide-memoire	AM-17-00200 Timeline for the consideration of the proposal for a third medical school	Release in full
14	Briefing	B-17-00220 Meeting with Hon Coleman and Profs Fraser, Bagg (UOA)	Redacted: 9(2)(a)
15	Aide-memoire	AM-17-00323 Waikato Medical School Proposal Ministers meeting with Regional Economic Development	Redacted: 9(2)(g)(i)
16	Briefing	B-17-00540 University of Waikato Medical School updated business case	Redacted: 9(2)(a)
17	Briefing	B-17-00540 Appendix 1 Summary of proposal	Release in full
18	Briefing	B-17-00540 Appendix 2 Key Facts – University of Waikato	Redacted: 9(2)(a)
19	Advice	X-17-00676 Returned briefing and follow up questions	Redacted: 9(2)(a), 9(2)(g)(ii)
20	Briefing	B-17-00840 Next steps in the establishment of a School of Rural Medicine	Redacted: 9(2)(a), 9(2)(g)(ii)
21	Cabinet paper	School of Rural medicine Cabinet paper	Release in full
22	Briefing	B-18-00178 Cover briefing for Cabinet Paper on the School of Rural Health	Redacted: 9(2)(a)
23	Aide-memoire	AM-18-00206 Talking Points for School of Rural Medicine	Release in full
24	Aide-memoire	AM-18-00749 Advice on the School of Rural Medicine Cabinet Paper	Release in full
25	Briefing	Rural School of Medicine – Annual Review Select Committee 2017-18	Release in full
26	Advice	From the productivity Commission report	Redacted: 9(2)(a)
27	Advice	Waikato Medical School	Redacted: 9(2)(a), 9(2)(g)(ii)
28	Advice	Note on Gippsland School of Rural Health	Release in full
29	Extracts	Extract from Briefing to the Incoming Minister – December 2016	Release in full