

24 May 2024

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Max Mitchell

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OIA 29347

Tēnā koe Max Mitchell

I refer to your email of 3 May 2024 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

I would like to make a request for the Forward Aid Plans used in developing MFAT's bilateral aid approach to the Solomon Islands over the period 2020-2024.

I am also requesting the most up-to-date Strategic Plan for aid to the Solomon Islands.

New Zealand's development assistance to Solomon Islands is guided by the priorities set out in the Four-Year Plan for Solomon Islands, dated October 2021. This document is publicly available on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (the Ministry) website at:

<https://www.mfat.govt.nz/assets/Aid/4YPs-2021-24/Solomon-Islands-4YP.pdf>.

This plan does not cover 2020. Although you have asked for information for the period 2020-2024, we have provided you with the most current and accurate information we hold on the Ministry's future plans for working with the Solomon Islands.

In addition, we have development assistance strategies which are not specifically focused on the Solomon Islands, but which include support to the Solomon Islands, such as the International Climate Finance Strategy which can be found on the Ministry website at:

<https://www.mfat.govt.nz/en/aid-and-development/climate-change-support/our-support-for-climate-action/our-strategy>.

Other strategies detailing New Zealand's approach to development assistance across the Pacific are also available on the Ministry's website at: www.mfat.govt.nz/en/aid-and-development/our-approach-to-aid.

The most up-to-date strategic plan for development assistance to the Solomon Islands is titled *Solomon Islands Country Strategy: New Zealand Government*, dated 2021, and is withheld in full under section 6(a) of the OIA, to avoid prejudicing the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the New Zealand Government.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Therefore, our response to your request (with your personal information

removed) may be published on the Ministry website: www.mfat.govt.nz/en/about-us/contact-us/official-information-act-responses/

If you have any questions about this decision, you can contact us by email at: DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision by contacting www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SC', written in a cursive style.

Sarah Corbett
for Acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade