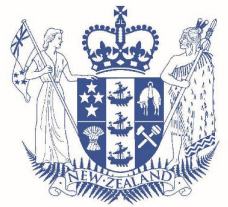


# Hon Chris Penk

Minister for Building and Construction  
Minister for Land Information  
Minister for Small Business and Manufacturing  
Minister for Veterans  
Associate Minister of Defence  
Associate Minister of Immigration



12 February 2025

OIA25-003

Luke Doidge Bailey

[fyi-request-29693-362aa35b@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-29693-362aa35b@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Tēnā koe Luke,

I refer to your official information request dated 6 January 2025.

You requested the below information in relation to the Manawatū District and Rangitīkei District name proposals:

- *‘Any communications between yourself or your office and the NZ Geographic Board and LINZ*
- *any communications between yourself or your office with the Manawatu and Rangitikei District Councils*
- *any notes, reports, or other documentation regarding your decision to decline the recommendations of the NZ Geographic Board to correct the official spelling of the Manawatū and Rangitīkei Districts.’*

I have interpreted the third bullet point of your request to be seeking signed copies of the reports provided to me by the New Zealand Geographic Board Ngā Pou Taunaha o Aotearoa (NZGB), in which I outlined my decision to decline to alter these district names. I also confirm that neither I nor my office has had any communications within the scope of your request with Manawatu and Rangitikei District Councils. As such, I am refusing this part of your request under section 18(e) of the Act as the information requested does not exist.

I am releasing the requested information related to parts 1 and 3 of your request which you will find attached. I have decided to withhold some information in accordance with the following sections of the Act:

- section 9(2)(a), to protect the privacy of natural persons
- section 9(2)(h), to maintain legal professional privilege
- section 9(2)(g)(ii), to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the protection of employees from improper pressure or harassment; and
- out of scope

I am of the view that the withholding of the information is not outweighed by other considerations which render it desirable in the public interest to make that 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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a final downward stroke.

Hon Chris Penk  
**Minister for Land Information**