



6 October 2015

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Kyle Levenberg
fyi-request-3130-1bb5d9d7@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Levenberg

Information request: Flag Consideration Panel documents

Our reference: DPMC 120-2015

- 1 On 8 September 2015 the Deputy Prime Minister received a request for information from you under the Official Information Act 1982 (“OIA”). Your request asked for:

“...the full records of the Flag Consideration Panel made during the course of their selection of the short list.”

- 2 The request was transferred to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (“DPMC”) on 17 September 2015.
- 3 Some of the information you request is already publicly available and can be viewed on the Flag Consideration Panel (“the Panel”)’s website. For example:
 - 3.1 a summary of how the final four designs were selected (<https://www.govt.nz/browse/engaging-with-government/the-nz-flag-your-chance-to-decide/project-updates/announcement-of-the-four-alternative-flag-designs/> and <https://www.govt.nz/browse/engaging-with-government/the-nz-flag-your-chance-to-decide/how-four-flags-chosen/>)
 - 3.2 the Panel’s open letter following the publication of the long-list of designs (<https://www.govt.nz/browse/engaging-with-government/the-nz-flag-your-chance-to-decide/open-letter/>), and
 - 3.3 the Panel’s report to the Responsible Minister (<https://www.govt.nz/browse/engaging-with-government/the-nz-flag-your-chance-to-decide/project-updates/report-to-responsible-minister/>).
- 4 There is information additional to what is currently on the Panel’s website – for example, reports and papers from the Secretariat (which supports the Panel) to the Panel. Much (if not all) of this information will be made publicly available in November 2015.
- 5 With respect to the categories of information addressed in paragraphs 3 and 4 above, I accordingly decline your request pursuant to section 18(d) of the OIA on the ground that the information requested is or will soon be publicly available.

- 6 To the extent that any information falling within the scope of your request that is not already publicly available is not made publicly available in November 2015, pursuant to s 15A of the OIA I am extending the time limit for responding to this part of your request to 27 November 2015 on the grounds that:
- 6.1 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 DPMC; and
 - 6.2 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.
- 7 Please note that you have the right to complain about these decisions to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the OIA.

Yours sincerely



Michael Webster
Clerk of the Executive Council