

15 October 2015

Jackson Wood
FYI.org.nz

Emailed to: fyi-request-3165-d9d65b8c@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Wood

Official Information Request Response

Thank you for your information request, submitted via the fyi.org.nz website on 23 September 2015, requesting copies of all information received by the Council concerning Giant Panda since 1 January 2010. I have been asked to assist with your request.

Please find the following information attached:

19 November 2010 - A letter from Maarten Wevers to the Chief Executive of Wellington Zoo, Karen Fifield. The letter provides the Zoo with background information on what is likely to be involved in obtaining and hosting Giant Panda, including projected costs.

6 January 2011 - Karen Fifield's response to Maarten Wevers, in which the Zoo's support for the project is provided.

11 April 2011 - The third letter between the Zoo and the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet is from the Chair of the Wellington Zoo Trust, Ross Martin, to the Prime Minister. This letter confirms advice received by the Zoo that the acquisition of Giant Panda was placed on hold as a result of the Christchurch earthquake rebuilding project.

2 December 2014 - A letter from the Mayor of Wellington, Celia Wade-Brown, to the Prime Minister. This letter confirms a meeting between the Mayor and the Prime Minister on 25 November 2014 in which the acquisition of Giant Panda was discussed.

Also enclosed is correspondence between Council staff and Karen Fifield, in the development of a briefing paper for the meeting on 25 November 2014, and the briefing paper itself.

Since your request was received on 23 September 2015, the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, Justin Lester, wrote to Defence Minister Gerry Brownlee on 25 September 2015. The letter was in support of Minister Brownlee's trip to Chengdu, and reconfirmed the Council's interest in the acquisition of Giant Panda.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely



Chris Brown
Issues Resolution Office
Wellington City Council
Ph: (04) 801 3479
Email: chris.brown@wcc.govt.nz