

26 January 2017

NATIONAL OFFICE

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Harriet Gale

fyi-request-5019-8623262d@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Harriet

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 28 November 2016 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982:

- 'Has the NZTA in partnership with other agencies conducted a Business Case for the Third Main in Auckland?'
- 'If so, could the relevant Business Case please be released to me in full, or in part if some provisions require protection for the approved reasons in the act?'

The Business Case is still in draft form and is yet to be considered by the KiwiRail Board and the Minister of Transport. Therefore, I am withholding the draft Business Case under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Official Information Act 1982. This section allows for the withholding of information to protect the confidentiality of advice tendered to Ministers of the Crown and officials.

With respect to the information that has been withheld, I do not consider there are any other factors which would render it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available. Timing of the when the business case can be made available is still uncertain as, in part, this will depend on implementation of the action plan for the Auckland Transport Alignment Project.

Under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act 1982, you have the right to apply to an Ombudsman for an investigation and review of the decision to withhold this information. The address is:

Office of the Ombudsmen PO Box 10152 Wellington

If you would like to discuss this reply with the NZ Transport Agency, please contact me by email to david.silvester@nzta.govt.nz or by phone on (04) 894 6415.

Yours sincerely

David Silvester

Acting Group Manager Planning & Investment

For Chief Executive