



2 August 2017

Eilis Donnelly  
Email: [fyi-request-6257-fc9242e0@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-6257-fc9242e0@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Reference: OIA-2017/18-0038

Dear Eilis Donnelly

**Official Information Act request relating to the initial proposal for governance structure for Kermadec Ocean Sanctuary Bill**

I refer to your Official Information Act request received on 22 July 2017 which asked:  
*"I am writing to inquire about the initial governance structure that was proposed in the introduction of the Kermadec Ocean Sanctuary Bill. In Hansard ((15 March 2016) 712 NZPD 9662) Hon Ruth Dyson mentions that initially co-management was envisioned as the governing body for the proposed Kermadec Ocean Sanctuary. However, I cannot find any other mention of this proposal for the legislation in the available material online."*

We have interpreted your request to be for the Kermadec Ocean Sanctuary Bill that was introduced in the House on 8 March 2016. Bills and Acts can be found on the New Zealand Legislation website at: <http://www.legislation.govt.nz/>. The Kermadec Ocean Sanctuary Bill is available online at:  
[http://www.legislation.govt.nz/bill/government/2016/0120/latest/versions.aspx?search=ts\\_act%40bill%40regulation%40deemedreg\\_kermadec\\_resele\\_25\\_a](http://www.legislation.govt.nz/bill/government/2016/0120/latest/versions.aspx?search=ts_act%40bill%40regulation%40deemedreg_kermadec_resele_25_a).

The "governance structure that was proposed in the introduction of the Kermadec Ocean Sanctuary Bill" can be found at section 23 of the Bill as introduced on 8 March 2016. This section sets out the establishment of the "Kermadec Conservation Board" with jurisdiction over the Kermadec area. Sections 24 – 26 set out the structure of that Board.

The Local Government and Environment Committee reported back on the Kermadec Ocean Sanctuary Bill on 22 July 2016 and this version of the Bill is also publicly available on the New Zealand Legislation website through the URL provided above. There were suggested amendments to sections 23 – 26 of the Bill relating to the Conservation Board.

To the extent that your request has been made under the Official Information Act, it is declined under section 18(d) of the Official Information Act on the basis "that the information requested is...publicly available."

For further information about this Bill and the background to its introduction, you may wish to visit the Ministry for the Environment's web page titled 'About the Kermadec Ocean Sanctuary Bill,' if you have not done so already. The webpage can be found at: <http://www.mfe.govt.nz/marine/legislation/about-kermadec-ocean-sanctuary-bill>. Documents available here include:

- Cabinet submission of 10 September 2015
- Regulatory Impact Statement of February 2016.

As the Kermadec Ocean Sanctuary Bill falls within the Environment portfolio, the Ministry for the Environment is better-placed to address any further questions you may have regarding this Bill.

You are entitled to ask the Ombudsman to review this response under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act. You can contact the Ombudsman online via the Ombudsman website, by email ([info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz)) or by post to The Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143. Further details can be found on the Ombudsman website at: [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

Yours sincerely



Anne Shaw  
**Director, Office of the Chief Executive**