

9 April 2018

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Dear Mr Thompson

Official Information Act 1982 request (reference OIA17/18-0304)

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) received by the Department of Internal Affairs on 9 March 2018. You requested:

"a copy of the final PwC Operational Report Phase 2"

I am withholding the report captured by your request in full under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act. This is necessary to protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials. The withheld information is currently under active consideration.

In your request, you mentioned that the report was "due with officials in December 2017". I can advise that this timeframe was subsequently delayed and the report is now in the process of being considered by both the Minister of Internal Affairs and the Board of Fire and Emergency New Zealand. I anticipate that the document may be proactively released to the public at a later date.

You have the right, under section 28(3) of the Act, to seek an investigation and review of my decision by the Office of the Ombudsman. The postal address of the Office of the Ombudsman is PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143. Alternatively, you can phone 0800 802 602 or email info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Yours sincerely

Karen Hope-Cross

Director Operational Services

Karen Hope-cross