

24 APR 2013

Alex Harris
fyi-request-781-123df813@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Alex

Re: Request under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request received on 7 March 2013. You requested the following:

"All communications held by CERA about the protest referred to above, including (but not limited to) communications with the protestors, other government agencies, Ministers and ECan; any advice CERA received or gave on that protest; CERA's guidelines on whether to grant permission for protests or other events in the Red Zone; if not included in the above, the reason(s) CERA originally granted permission for the protest, and the reason(s) it revoked it."

With regard to your request for "CERA's guidelines on whether to grant permission for protests or other events in the Red Zone," the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority (CERA) granted permission for access for a small number of people to enter the red zone to inspect the cairn in Cathedral Square. Access into the red zone was not granted for the purposes of holding a protest.

As the apparent intention of the access request had changed from the one stated at the time it was granted, the permission to access was revoked. This was done pursuant to section 45 of the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Act 2011, where by any approval granted by the Chief Executive of CERA can be withdrawn at any time, at the absolute discretion of the Chief Executive.

Information being released

Please find enclosed the following documents:

Item	Date	Document Description
1.	5-7 March 2013 Starting 4:24pm	Access to Square
2.	5-7 March 2013 Starting 4:24 pm	Access to Square

3.	5-7 March 2013 Starting 4:24 pm	Access to Square
4.	5-7 March Starting 4:24 pm	Access to Square
5.	5-7 March 2013 Starting 4:24 pm	Access to Square
6.	6-7 March Starting 3:54 pm	Loss of regional democracy in Canterbury- Green Party media advisory
7.	6-7 March Starting 3:54 pm	Loss of regional democracy in Canterbury- Green Party media advisory
8.	6-7 March Starting 3.54 pm	Loss of regional democracy in Canterbury- Green Party media advisory
9.	7 March 2013 Starting 10:18am	Application for access to Square
10.	7 March 2013 Starting 12:53 pm	Revised draft comment
11.	7 March 2013 Starting 2:43 pm	Rebuild Zone access today
12.	7 March 2013 2:56 pm	Protest
13.	7 March 2013 3:13 pm	CERA statement on Rebuild Zone access
14.	7 March 2013 3:16 pm	CERA statement on Rebuild Zone access today
15.	7 March 2013 3:20 pm	Mojo and Eugenie are facebooking!
16.	7 March 2013 Starting at 3:33 pm	Cathedral Square Access
17.	7 March 2013 Starting at 3:38 pm	Cathedral Square access
18.	7 March 2013 3:50 pm	CERA statement on Rebuild Zone access
19.	7 March 2013 4:03 pm	CERA Media Issues- Thursday 7 March
20.	7 March 2013 Starting at 5:24 pm	Newstalk ZB call

I have decided to release the relevant parts of the documents listed above, subject to information being withheld under one or more of the following sections of the Official Information Act, as applicable:

- section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people

- section 9(2)(f)(iv) – to maintain the current constitutional conventions protecting the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers and officials
- section 9(2)(g)(i) – to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expressions of opinion

Information to be withheld

There are additional documents covered by your request that I have decided to withhold in full under one or more of the following sections of the Official Information Act, as applicable:

- section 9(2)(f)(iv) – to maintain the current constitutional conventions protecting the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers and officials
- section 9(2)(g)(i) – to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expressions of opinion

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Official Information Act.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act.

Yours sincerely



Warwick Isaacs
Acting Chief Executive

