

Reference: 20180312

19 September 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your Official Information Act request, received on 2 August 2018. You requested the following:

*"I request under the Official Information Act a list of all requests made since January 1 2018 which relate to Simon Bridges. Please provide the name and organisation of the requester the date of the request, the wording of the request, and a copy of the full response to the requester."*

As you are aware, on 28 August the Treasury extended the date for a response to your request to 20 September 2018.

On 16 March 2018 the Treasury received a request from Clint Smith, Senior Researcher, Labour Party Leader's Office for "all papers and other material held by the Treasury concerning development of 'value capture' and other policy innovations to fund infrastructure under the previous National-led Government".

Mr Smith also requested that the response include all information held by the Treasury relating to or supplied to a high-powered Ministerial committee, chaired by the former transport minister Simon Bridges, to look at ways of funding Auckland transport projects.

A response (attached) was sent to Mr Smith on 30 May 2018 notifying him of our decision prior to delivering the requested documents, under section 15(1)(b) of the Official Information Act, because of the large volume of information involved.

At the end of June Mr Smith verbally withdrew his request and the requested information was not released.

The Treasury has not received any other requests since 1 January 2018 in relation to Simon Bridges.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) and enclosed documents may be published on the Treasury website.

This reply addresses the information you requested. You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision.

Yours sincerely

David Bowden  
**Chief of Staff**

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Reference: 20180125

30 May 2018

Clint Smith  
Labour Party  
Clint.Smith@parliament.govt.nz

Dear Mr Clint Smith

Thank you for your Official Information Act request, received on 16 March 2018. You requested:

“This is a request under the Official Information Act for all papers and other material held by the Treasury concerning development of ‘value capture’ and other policy innovations to fund infrastructure under the previous National-led Government.

Note this article from Politik <http://politik.co.nz/en/content/politics/1293/Bridges-takes-risk-to-score-political-points-Simon-Bridges-value-uplift-infrastructure-National-Government.htm>, which states “the Government had set up a high powered Ministerial committee to look at ways of funding Auckland transport projects. That committee was chaired by the Transport Minister, Simon Bridges.” Please ensure your response includes all information held by Treasury relating to or supplied to this committee.”

On 17 April 2018 this request was extended to 30 May 2018. As well, we decided that instead of transferring the request to different agencies we would co-ordinate a centralised single response given the amount of collaboration involved in the preparation of the documents. The other agencies are the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, the New Zealand Transport Agency and the Ministry of Transport.

### Information Being Released

Treasury is still working on producing the redacted versions of the below listed documents. As there is a large volume of information (there is a series of emails and attachments that come to 166 pages), careful quality assurance is required. This is especially the case working across four agencies. This is taking longer than anticipated, and so I am accepting your request and notifying you of that acceptance prior to delivering the requested documents, under section 15(1)(b) of the Official Information Act.

I anticipate the production and QA of documents will be complete within three weeks, at which point Treasury will send the documents to you. I apologise for the inconvenience. Below is a list of the documents Treasury will be releasing to you:

Item	Date	Document Description	Decision
1.	9 May 2017	Wider Economic Benefits and Value Capture (Treasury)	Release in part. The rest of the document is out of scope
2.	August 2017	Regulatory Impact Statement –Supporting complex urban development projects with dedicated legislation (Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment)	Release in part Page 52 (paragraphs 258-261) Page 64 (paragraphs 334) Page 134 (paragraphs 815) Pages 141-142 (paragraphs 877-844)  The rest of the document is out of scope.
3.	2017	166 pages in emails and attachments relating to the preparation of value capture briefings between Treasury; Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment; New Zealand Transport Agency and the Ministry of Transport.	Release in part

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 that of
- 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 expression of opinions,
- section 9(2)(k) – to prevent the disclosure of information for improper gain or improper advantage.

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

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) and enclosed documents may be published on the Treasury website.

This reply addresses the information you requested. You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision.

Yours sincerely

David Taylor  
**Manager, National Infrastructure Unit**