

11 September 2024

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation, received on 31 July 2024, in which you asked for:

- * Any advice provided by DOC to the Minister of Conservation on use of an International Visitor Levy and any changes to this;
- * Over the period of the last 12 months.

We have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982.

On 27 August we extended the timeframe to respond to your request to 11 September due to due to the consultation necessary.

The documents within scope of your request are listed in the attached table. I have decided to release the relevant parts of the documents listed, subject to information being withheld under one or more of the following sections of the Official Information Act, as applicable:

- personal contact details of officials, under section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people,
- commercially sensitive information, under section 9(2)(b)(ii) – to protect the commercial position of the person who supplied the information, or who is the subject of the information,
- advice still under consideration, section 9(2)(f)(iv) – to maintain the current constitutional conventions protecting the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers and officials,
- free and frank expression under section 9(2)(g)(i) – to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs, and
- advice subject to legal privilege, under section 9(2)(h) - to maintain legal professional privilege.
- commercially sensitive information, under section 9(2)(i) - to enable a Minister of the Crown or any department or organisation holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Official Information Act and determined there are no public interests that outweigh the grounds for withholding.

You are entitled to seek an investigation and review of my decision by writing to an Ombudsman as provided by section 28(3) of the Official Information Act.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) and attached documents may be published on the Department's website.

Nāku noa, nā



Siân Roguski
Director Policy
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Table 1 - Schedule of documents

Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1	21 September 2023	23-B-0418 - International Visitor Levy – Proposed investment projects	Released in part - s9(2)(a)
2	22 February 2024	24-B-0043 - IVL proposed investment projects - 2024	Released in part - s9(2)(a), s9(2)(g)(i)
3	1 March 2024	24-B-0111 - Final International Visitor Levy Projects and Supplementary Information	Released in part - s9(2)(a), s9(2)(f)(iv), s9(2)(b)(ii), s9(2)(i), s9(2)(f)(iv)
4	8 March 2024	24-B-0147- Email - Feedback on Draft Cabinet paper and discussion document IVL rate review	Released in part – s9(2)(g)(i)
5	14 March 2024	24-B-0142 - 2024 Review of the International Conservation and Tourism Levy	Released in part - s9(2)(a), s9(2)(g)(i)
6	2 April 2024	24-B-0143 - Publication of International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy Annual Performance Report 2022-23	Released in part - s9(2)(a)
7	8 May 2024	24-B-0224 - Briefing - International Visitors Levy - Proposed IVL projects May 2024	Released in part - s9(2)(a), s9(2)(f)(iv)
8	13 June 2024	Status report item – IVL consultation	Released in part - s9(2)(a)
9	26 July 2024	24-K-0016 - IVL Rate Change - Cabinet paper talking points	Released in part - s9(2)(a), s9(2)(f)(iv), s9(2)(g)(i)
10	16 February 2024	Name withheld	Withheld in full – s9(2)(f)(iv)
11	1 March 2024	Name withheld	Withheld in full s9(2)(f)(iv)
12	13 March 2024	Name withheld	Withheld in full s9(2)(f)(iv)