

3 July 2020



Chris Bishop
Email: christopher.bishop@parliament.govt.nz

Dear Mr Bishop

REQUEST UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT 1982

Thank you for your request to the Guardians of New Zealand Superannuation ("**Guardians**"), the manager of the New Zealand Superannuation Fund ("**NZ Super Fund**", "**NZSF**" "**Fund**"), dated 25 June 2020 made pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982 ("**OIA**").

Your Request

You have requested all correspondence, including emails, between the NZ Super Fund and the Office of Hon Phil Twyford, Office of Hon Shane Jones and Office of the Prime Minister relating to Auckland light rail and the NZ Infra proposal, since 1 January 2020.

Our Response

Details of the information we have identified as being within the scope of your request, and our response in respect of that request, are set out in **Table 1 below** this letter. The information we are releasing can be found **attached**, at **Appendix 1**.

As you will see, there is not much correspondence to release. To explain, under a communications protocol established by the Ministry of Transport, NZ Infra was specifically precluded from providing Ministers with details about its proposal that would undermine the Ministry's process. Engagement was restricted to matters such as no surprises advice on media enquiries and routine correspondence. The arrangements were to ensure the Ministry of Transport was able to lead an unbiased assessment of the NZ Infra proposal.

We have withheld portions of certain documents (specifically, names and contact information) on the basis that we have a good reason for doing so under section 9 of the OIA. In Table 1 we have identified the grounds that apply to each document.

The general bases on which it is necessary for us to withhold the information, and the ground under the OIA that we refer to, is as follows:

Section 9(2)(a) – "*Protect the privacy of natural persons.*" Names and contact details have been withheld in order to protect the privacy of natural persons. We cannot see any public interest in, or benefit from, the release of this information, and we do not believe it is required for the purposes of transparency and accountability of the Guardians' activities.

General

You have the right to seek a review by the Ombudsmen's Office of our decision to withhold the information. Please note that we may choose to publish our response to your request on our website at www.nzsuperfund.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Owen', written in a cursive style.

Sarah Owen
GM Corporate Strategy and General Counsel

Table 1:

| Document Reference | Document Date | Document Title | Released | Reasons for Withholding | Page |
|--------------------|---------------|---|---------------------------|---|------|
| 2970887 | 3/03/2020 | <p>Subject: FW: Formal complaint regarding story on Guardians' of NZ Superannuation and CDPQ Infra's Auckland Light Rail proposal</p> <p>Email from Conor Roberts to Tom James, Office of Hon Phil Twyford</p> <p>NB. <i>Stuff responded to this complaint to defend its coverage of the matter. No further action was taken.</i></p> | <i>Partially withheld</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Section 9(2)(a) | 1 |
| 2970888 | 4/03/2020 | <p>Fwd: Super Fund FEC appearance + media stand up</p> <p>Email from Conor Roberts to Tom James, Office of Hon Phil Twyford.</p> <p>Recording clip attached separately.</p> | <i>Partially withheld</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Section 9(2)(a) | 3 |
| 2971030 | 15/05/2020 | <p>FW: Auckland Light Rail</p> <p>Email from Conor Roberts to Tom James, Office of Hon Phil Twyford</p> | <i>Partially withheld</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Section 9(2)(a) | 4 |
| 2970841 | 29/05/2020 | <p>Fwd: light rail hold up</p> <p>Email from Conor Roberts to Tom James, Office of Hon Phil Twyford</p> | <i>Partially withheld</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Section 9(2)(a) | 6 |

| Document Reference | Document Date | Document Title | Released | Reasons for Withholding | Page |
|--------------------|---------------|---|---------------------------|---|------|
| 2970847 | 12/06/2020 | FW: RNZ this morning Email from Conor Roberts to Tom James, Office of Hon Phil Twyford | <i>Partially withheld</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 9(2)(a) | 9 |
| 2970963 | 24/06/2020 | PR: Phil Twyford - Auckland Light Rail process ended Email from Tom James, Office of Hon Phil Twyford to Conor Roberts | <i>Partially withheld</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 9(2)(a) | 11 |
| 2777708 | 3/03/2020 | Meeting with Minister of Transport Email from Catherine Etheredge to Emma Kean, Office of Hon Phil Twyford | <i>Partially withheld</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 9(2)(a) | 13 |
| 2777707 | 3/03/2020 | RE: Meeting with Minister of Transport Email from Emma Kean, Office of Hon Phil Twyford to Catherine Etheredge | <i>Partially withheld</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 9(2)(a) | 14 |
| 2971061 | 03/03/2020 | FW: Meeting with Minister of Transport Email from Conor Roberts to Beth Houston, Office of Hon Phil Twyford | <i>Partially withheld</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 9(2)(a) | 15 |