

13 February 2023

s9(2)(a)

Kia orana s9(2)(a)

RESPONSE TO AN OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

On 10 January 2023, you contacted the Ministry for Pacific Peoples (the Ministry) requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), information relating to the Ministry's progress towards becoming a carbon neutral organisation. I have outlined your specific requests and my responses to each below.

1. *Your progress towards being a carbon neutral organisation by 2025?*

The Ministry's baseline year (2021/22 financial year) for recording emissions data was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Work is underway to understand what our highest carbon emissions are besides travel; to accurately measure our baseline and develop a work programme to become carbon neutral.

The measures include energy efficient lighting, reduction in office waste and work to potentially reduce our fleet, and a phased move to hybrid/electric vehicles.

2. *How you intend to reduce travel related carbon emissions in becoming carbon neutral?*

The Ministry needs to get an accurate reflection of our baseline, before we can make specific decisions on travel that will reduce our carbon emissions.

3. *What actions, if any, are you taking to reduce travel?*

This will depend on what the Ministry's re-calculated baseline reflects. However, we expect to review our travel policy and monitor travel behaviour for improvement. We receive monthly travel reports for air travel and our fleet. We are using this to monitor our travel behaviour and identify improvements that can support carbon neutrality.

In line with standard OIA practice, the Ministry proactively publishes some of its responses to OIA requests. As such, this letter may be published on the Ministry for Pacific Peoples' website. Your personal details will be removed, and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you or your organisation.

Should you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact the Ministry at: oi_requests@mpp.govt.nz.

If you are dissatisfied with this response, you have the right, under section 28(3) of the OIA, to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Meitaki ma'ata



Leatigaga Jason Tualima
Deputy Secretary
Corporate Services