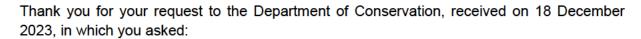


OIAD-3667

13 February 2024



Tēnā koe



Please release the ministerial briefing about SailGP – made before the announcement it was returning to Whakaraupō/Lyttelton Harbour?

On 7 February 2024 we extended your request by 4 working days, due to necessary consultation.

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

SailGP had intended to hold an event in Auckland in 2024. On 21 November 2023, the Auckland event was cancelled. On 13 December 2023, it was announced that SailGP would return to Whakaraupō/Lyttelton Harbour in 2024.

DOC did not have a role in deciding whether the event would return to Whakaraupō/Lyttelton Harbour – this was the event organiser's decision. Organisers do not require a permit or permission from DOC to hold the event.

Alongside Te Hāpu o Ngāti Wheke Rāpaki, we met with SailGP and ChristchurchNZ to discuss the Marine Mammal Management Plan ahead of organisers making their decision.

Up until advised of the Auckland situation, the DOC team in Christchurch were not anticipating the event would return until 2025.

Your requested document, Departmental Memo 23-B-0500, is attached to this response.

I have decided to release the relevant parts of the documents listed above, subject to information being withheld under section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people.



On 31 January 2024 you also requested under the Official Information Act:

With respect, can DOC please provide all ministerial briefings (correspondence and attachments) regarding the SailGP race scheduled for Lyttelton Harbour/Whakaraupō in March. This should include any advice on changes to marine mammal sanctuary rules, plus information about the event's marine mammal management plan. The timeframe for this request is from November 24 (when the full Government line-up was announced) to today's date. If it hasn't already been released, please include any pertinent passages of the BIM.

For this request, no other documents are in scope. The Briefing to the Incoming Minister is publicly available and can be found at the following link: https://www.doc.govt.nz/about-us/our-role/corporate-publications/briefings-to-new-ministers-archive/briefing-to-the-incoming-ministers-november-2023/.

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 the attached document may be published on the Department's website.

Nāku noa, nā

Jo Macpherson

Director Operations, Eastern South Island Department of Conservation *Te Papa Atawhai*

Encl. 1