18 Manners Street, Wellington 6011 PO Box 10420, Wellington 6140

info@doc.govt.nz

Ref: OIAD-5042

11 April 2025

Tēnā koe

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation, received on 20 March 2025, in which you asked for:

"..the following briefing.

25-B-49

Hauraki Gulf / Tîkapa Moana Marine Protection Bill – final matters for Amendment Paper 19 February 2025.."

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

The Hauraki Gulf | Tīkapa Moana Marine Protection Bill (Bill) is presently awaiting its Committee of the Whole House stage, following completion of its Second Reading in Parliament on 18 December 2024.

Regrettably, I am not able to provide you with the specific information you seek. Advice contained in the requested briefing, connected to work related to the Bill, is still under consideration. Consequently, it is withheld under sections 9(2)(f)(iv) of the OIA – to maintain the constitutional conventions protecting the confidentiality of advice tendered by, between and to Ministers and officials.

Decisions in <u>Cabinet paper 'Report back on the Hauraki Gulf / Tīkapa Moana Marine Protection</u> <u>Bill'</u> [CAB-24-SUB-0386] authorised the Minister of Conservation to consider and make the necessary policy decisions, and take appropriate legislative drafting steps, to be able to progress any changes required to the Bill at its Committee of the Whole House stage.

In making my decision, I have taken account of the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the OIA 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 OIA.



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

Nāku noa, nā

Siân Roguski Director Policy

Department of Conservation | Te Papa Atawhai