

28 March 2025

Tēnā koe

Thank you for your Official Information Act request to the Department of Conservation, received on 17 February 2025, in which you asked:

*Could you please provide us with a copy of the assessment as soon as possible?  
Additionally, we would like to request the following information:*

- *All communications regarding Charlie Girl for the past year.*

Several further questions were transferred to the Dunedin City Council on 24 February 2025.

Your questions and my responses are as follows:

1. *a copy of the assessment*

The welfare assessment report for Charlie is now publicly available at the following link:

[www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/about-doc/news/media-releases/charlie-girl-welfare-assesment-report.pdf](http://www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/about-doc/news/media-releases/charlie-girl-welfare-assesment-report.pdf)

This part of your request is therefore refused under section 18(d) of the Official Information Act 1982 as the information is publicly available.

2. *All communications regarding Charlie Girl for the past year*

On 19 February we emailed you and provided a link to a previous OIA that covers all communication about Charlie for the period 27 June 2023 to 27 June 2024:

<https://www.doc.govt.nz/news/oia-responses/2024/>

This part of your request is therefore partially refused under section 18(d) of the Official Information Act 1982 as the information for the period to 27 June 2024 is publicly available.

In our email of 19 February, we also asked you to consider refining your request for all communications regarding Charlie. To provide you with this information from 28 June 2024 onwards would involve substantial collation and research. As we have not heard from you, I regret that I must refuse your request for all correspondence from 28 June 2024 onwards under section 18(f) of the Official Information Act. The information cannot be made available without substantial collation and research.

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) may be published on the Department's website.

Nāku noa, nā



Hilary Aikman  
Director Terrestrial Biodiversity  
Department of Conservation  
*Te Papa Atawhai*