



30 January 2025

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Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation, received on 24 December 2024 (transferred from the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment) in which you asked for:

*'All advice to ministers related to the future of the Chateau Tongariro. Please cover the period July 1 2024 to the present.'*

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

### **Context**

The Department has been undertaking investigations into the potential long-term options for the Chateau Tongariro (Chateau). As part of this work, an expression of interest process was being developed to determine whether leasing the Chateau would be a viable option.

Unfortunately, the potential commercial lease options for the Chateau will require significant investment to repair, refurbish and seismically strengthen the main building. Any investment required to bring the Chateau up to standard would need to be funded from a new hotel operator and/or the Crown. Based on the scale of the investment required, the Minister has prudently decided to pause this process and to take options to Cabinet on next steps.

The Department is currently seeking direction from Cabinet on the next steps.

### **Response**

Your request is refused in full subject to section 18(d) of the Official Information Act as information within scope of your request has already been considered/proactively released and is publicly available.

For context we refer you to proactively released Official Information Act request OIAD-4599 which can be accessed on our website at <https://www.doc.govt.nz/news/oia-responses/2024/>. We also refer you to the following Status Report: [oiad-4297-attachment-1](#)

No further written advice (not already released and considered via these responses) related to the Chateau Tongariro has been provided to the Ministers Office within the timeframe of 1 July – 19 December 2024.

At present information provided via response OIAD-4599 has not changed (including listed withholding reasons) and there have been no further developments at this time.

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

If you would like to discuss this response with us, please contact Julie Chuor, Project Lead, by email to [jchuor@doc.govt.nz](mailto:jchuor@doc.govt.nz).

Nāku noa, nā



CJ Juby  
Director, Business Services  
Department of Conservation  
*Te Papa Atawhai*