

20 November 2025

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation (DOC), received on 07 October 2025, in which you asked for:

"I would like to request the following under the Official Information Act, held from the past 2 years:

- All advice provided to the Minister regarding the establishment of a public reserve on the Miramar Peninsula.*
- Any information held on the timeframe for the establishment for a reserve."*

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

Your questions and our responses are listed below:

1. All advice provided to the Minister regarding the establishment of a public reserve on the Miramar Peninsula.

The following documents have been identified as in scope of your request. The publicly available information can be found on the Land Information New Zealand website at <https://www.linz.govt.nz/resources/cabinet-paper/cabinet-and-ministers-decisions-made-2025-establish-reserve-watts-peninsula-matai-moana-wellington>.

Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1	15 July 2024	Status Report Item 3.2	Released in part
2	9 December 2024	Status Report item 2.3	Released in part
3	25 June 2025	Status Report Item 3.5	Released in part
4	8 April 2025	Cabinet Paper – Establishing a Reserve at Watts Peninsula – Mātai Moana	Publicly available
5	9 April 2025	Cabinet Paper Talking Points: Watts Peninsula - Mātai Moana for ECO meeting	Released in part
6	5 August 2025	Ministerial decisions required to establish the reserve at Watts Peninsula/Mātai Moana	Publicly available

2. Any information held on the timeframe for the establishment for a reserve

The reserve will be controlled and managed an independent charitable trust – the Mātai Moana Charitable Trust. Trustees will be appointed by Wellington City Council, Taranaki Whānui and the Department of Conservation.

DOC does not hold any information on the timeframe for the establishment of the reserve as that will be determined by the Trust. Once the Trust is established and the control and management appointment is in place we'll have a much clearer idea of logistics and timeframes.

I have decided to release the relevant parts of the documents listed above, subject to information being withheld under one or more of the following sections of the OIA, as applicable:

- personal information, under section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people.
- to maintain the current constitutional conventions protecting the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers and officials, under section 9(2)(f)(iv).

In making my decision, I have considered 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) and attached documents may be published on DOC's website.

Nāku noa, nā



Alice Heather
Director Operations, Lower North Island
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai