[redacted]

Whare Kaupapa Atawhai | **Conservation House**

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19 November 2026

Ref: OIAD-9866/ 9884

Tēnā koe [redacted]

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation, received on 7 October 2026, in which you asked for:

> *'the three documents that are listed on your 'Advice to Minister' website. These relate to the Hākaimangō-Matiatia (North-West Waiheke) Marine Reserve application. The Friends of the Hauraki Gulf is the applicant.*
> *ADVM-86 - Advice on the Hākaimangō-Matiatia Marine Reserve Application - 18 June 2026*
> *25-B-220 - Further advice on decision on the Hākaimangō-Matiatia marine reserve application - 28 May 2025*
> *25-B-113 - Further advice on Hākaimangō - Matiatia Marine Reserve - 21March 2025'*

And your request received on 12 October 2026 for:

> *"…the report prepared by the Department of Conservation for the Minister of Conservation concerning the application for the Hakaimango-Matiatia (North-West Waiheke) Marine Reserve"*

I have considered your requests under the Official Information Act 1982.

The relevant documents for each of the requests are listed in Tables 1 and 2. I have decided to release Items 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10, subject to information being withheld under one or more of the following sections of the Official Information Act, as applicable:

- personal contact details of officials, under section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people
- commercially sensitive information, under section 9(2)(b)(ii) – to protect the commercial position of the person who supplied the information, or who is the subject of the information
- advice subject to legal privilege, under section 9(2)(h) - to maintain legal professional privilege.

I have decided to withhold in full *25-B-0220 Briefing - Further advice on decision on the Hākaimangō-Matiatia marine reserve application* (Item 2), *25-B-0220 - Attachment A - draft MOC decision letter* (Item 3) and *24-B-0566 - SIGNED Briefing - Decision on the Hākaimangō-*

Matiatia marine reserve application (Item 11), as these documents remain with the Minister of Conservation (Minister) for decision. In making my decision, I am assured that the Minister has not yet made a decision on this matter and is continuing to consider the advice. As such, it continues to be necessary to withhold the information at issue, under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the OIA. Premature release of the advice would prejudice the ability of the Minister to make whatever decisions are considered necessary.

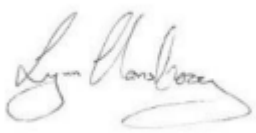
For the avoidance of doubt, I note that the Minister has not made his statutory decisions under the Marine Reserves Act on the application for the proposed Hākaimangō-Matiatia Marine Reserve. In the signed version of briefing *24-B-0566 - SIGNED Briefing - Decision on the Hākaimangō-Matiatia marine reserve application* (Item 11), the Minister noted his views at that time (13 April 2025) and included questions and a request for further information. The Department subsequently provided the Minister with a supplementary briefing on 28 May 2025, *25-B-0220 Briefing - Further advice on decision on the Hākaimangō-Matiatia marine reserve application* (Item 2). That supplementary briefing remains under active consideration. The Minister has not formally recorded his decisions or signed either *25-B-0220 Briefing - Further advice on decision on the Hākaimangō-Matiatia marine reserve application* (Item 2) or the updated briefing that was provided as Attachment B to 25-B-0220 (Item 4). The draft concurrence letters to the Minister for Oceans and Fisheries and Minister of Transport (Item 10) were prepared by the Department and provided to the Minister as a matter of course, but were not sent. The Department of Conservation cannot comment on when any Ministerial decisions will be made.

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

Nāku noa, nā



Lynn Hansberry
Director Regulatory Systems Performance
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

APPENDIX

Table 1 - Schedule of documents for OIAD-9866

Item	Date	Document description	Decision	Decision detail
1	24 March 2025	25-B-0113 - Memo - Further advice on Hākaimangō-Matiatia Marine Reserve	Released in part	**Redacted** under 9(2)(a), 9(2)(h)
2	28 May 2025	25-B-0220 - Briefing - Further advice on decision on the Hākaimangō-Matiatia marine reserve application	Withheld in full	**Withheld** under 9(2)(f)(iv)
3	28 May 2025	25-B-0220 - Attachment A - draft MOC decision letter	Withheld in full	**Withheld** under 9(2)(f)(iv)
4	28 May 2025	25-B-0220 - Attachment B - Updated Briefing Decision on the marine reserve 24-B-0566	Released in part	**Redacted** under 9(2)(a), 9(2)(h)
5	18 June 2026	ADVM-86 Advice on the Hākaimangō-Matiatia Marine Reserve Application	Released in part	**Redacted** under 9(2)(a)

Table 2 - Schedule of documents for OIAD-9884

Item	Date	Document description	Decision	Decision detail
6	29 November 2024	24-B-0566 - Briefing - Decision on the Hākaimangō-Matiatia marine reserve application	Released in part	**Redacted** under 9(2)(a), 9(2)(h)
7	29 November 2024	24-B-0566 – Attachment A – Departmental report to the Minister of Conservation on the Hākaimangō-Matiatia marine reserve application (Volume 1)	Released in part	**Redacted** under 9(2)(b)(ii)
8	29 November 2024	24-B-0566 – Attachment B – Departmental report to the Minister of Conservation on the Hākaimangō-Matiatia marine reserve application (Volume 2, appendices to Volume 1)[1]	Released in part	**Redacted** under 9(2)(a), 9(2)(b)(ii)
9	29 November 2024	24-B-0566 – Attachment C – A3 DOC summary for MOC on the marine reserve application	Released in full	
10	29 November 2024	24-B-0566 – Attachment D – Draft concurrence letters to MFOF and MOT	Released in full	
11	13 April 2025	24-B-0566 - SIGNED Briefing - Decision on the Hākaimangō-Matiatia marine reserve application	Withheld in full	**Withheld** under 9(2)(f)(iv)

[1] Appendix 7 in this document (p 116-124) refers to ‘Ngāti Paoa’. The correct name is Ngāti Pāoa Iwi Trust.