



OIAD-3667

13 February 2024



Tēnā koe [redacted]

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation, received on 18 December 2023, in which you asked:

*Please release the ministerial briefing about SailGP – made before the announcement it was returning to Whakaraupō/Lyttelton Harbour?*

On 7 February 2024 we extended your request by 4 working days, due to necessary consultation.

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

SailGP had intended to hold an event in Auckland in 2024. On 21 November 2023, the Auckland event was cancelled. On 13 December 2023, it was announced that SailGP would return to Whakaraupō/Lyttelton Harbour in 2024.

DOC did not have a role in deciding whether the event would return to Whakaraupō/Lyttelton Harbour – this was the event organiser's decision. Organisers do not require a permit or permission from DOC to hold the event.

Alongside Te Hāpu o Ngāti Wheke Rāpaki, we met with SailGP and ChristchurchNZ to discuss the Marine Mammal Management Plan ahead of organisers making their decision.

Up until advised of the Auckland situation, the DOC team in Christchurch were not anticipating the event would return until 2025.

Your requested document, Departmental Memo 23-B-0500, is attached to this response.

I have decided to release the relevant parts of the documents listed above, subject to information being withheld under section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people.

