

Dear Graham

I am writing in response to your Official Information Act request of 17 March 2014 on implementation of AgResearch's campus redevelopment programme. In particular you asked:

1. Could you please provide proposed meeting times for the decision making process.
2. Could you please provide any contracts, agreements or reports that you have signed for the work to progress.
3. Could you please provide any correspondence between yourself and Minister Stephen Joyce regarding a decision on the proposal.
4. Could you please provide a date by which a final decision on the proposal will be made.

In relation to points 1 and 4, we will be confirming our plans in the next couple of months to enable the design phase to commence; however we do not have a definitive date yet. If there are changes we will let our staff know first, and we will then be in contact with our other stakeholders. Major decisions on the shape of the redeveloped campuses will be made by the AgResearch Board, which meets monthly.

Regarding point 2, as of 17 March 2014, no such agreements had been signed. On point 3, there has been no correspondence between Minister Joyce and Dr Tom Richardson regarding "a decision on the proposal". Accordingly, pursuant to section 18(g) of the Act (the requested information is not held), we will not be providing this information.

Please note that you may request that the Ombudsman conduct an investigation and review of this decision.

Regards

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