

22 September 2023

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation, received on 25 August 2023, in which you requested material covering negotiations, insurance and ministerial updates concerned with Chateau Tongariro.

Your questions and our responses are listed below:

1. *All documents related to negotiations with KAH NZ over payment for and or the value of the Chateau Tongariro building and ancillary buildings. For clarity, my request includes, but is not limited to emails, memos, briefings to ministers, and cabinet papers. Please limit this part of my request to February 1 2023 to the present.*

Correspondence material sought is made up of advice subject to legal privilege. Subsequently this aspect of your request is refused in full via section 18(a) by virtue of having grounds to withhold under section 9(2)(h) to maintain legal professional privilege.

We can also confirm that there are no additional Memo's, Briefings or Cabinet papers concerning Chateau Tongariro (generated since February 1) which have not already been provided to you via previous Official Information Act requests.

2. *In addition, please provide me with all documentation related to insuring the Chateau and ancillary buildings. This includes, but is not limited to, all documentation that relates to the insured value upper limit of \$10m (\$2m in the event of natural disaster). For clarity, my request includes, but is not limited to emails, memos, briefings for ministers, and cabinet papers. Please limit this part of my request to February 1, 2023 to April 30, 2023.*

We have identified correspondence and associated insurance material within scope of this aspect of your request. Relevant material is provided as attachment 1 for your reference. Further information on this material is outlined in the Schedule of documents table (attachment 1, items 1 - 5).

3. *Finally, please provide me all updates and briefings to Ministers related to the Chateau Tongariro. Please limit this part of my request to June 14 to the present.*



We have located two documents within scope of this aspect of your request. These documents are Status Report updates. This material is provided as attachment 2 for your reference. Further information on this material is outlined in Schedule of documents table (attachment 2, items 1 - 2).

I have decided to release the relevant parts of the documents listed in the document schedule, 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,
- commercially sensitive information, under section 9(2)(i) - to enable a Minister of the Crown or any department or organisation holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities, and
- confidential information, under section 9(2)(j) – to enable the Crown to negotiate without disadvantage or prejudice.

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



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



Table 1 - Schedule of documents

Attachment 1: Insurance Correspondence and Documentation			
Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1	10 March 2023	Insurance Value valuation for Chateau Tongariro by Marsh	Released in Part
2	13 March 2023	Email trail relating to obtaining insurance on Chateau Tongariro	Released in Part
3	14 March 2023	Email trail relating to insurance on chattels in Chateau Tongariro	Released in Part
4	23 March 2023	Email trail on proposed insurance cover	Released in Part
5	27 March 2023	Email trail on possible reduction of options and providers of insurance for Chateau	Released in Part

Attachment 2: Updates to the Minister since June 14			
Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1	Week beginning 19 June 2023	Department of Conservation Status Report for the Minister of Conservation	Released in Part
2	Week beginning 14 August 2023	Department of Conservation Status Report for the Minister of Conservation	Released in Part