



14 October 2021



Ref: OIA-2021/22-0280

Dear 

Official Information Act request relating to the Department's carbon neutrality plan

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 16 September 2021. You requested:

- 1. What plan does your department have in place to ensure carbon neutrality by 2025?*
- 2. In particular, how much of this plan is reliant on carbon offsetting, as opposed to emission reductions?*
- 3. If applicable, how much progress have you made towards this plan?*
- 4. What are the key areas in which you are changing how you operate to reach the 2025 carbon reduction target?*

This response covers both the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) and its departmental agency, the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), which was the subject of your request dated 19 September 2021.

Under the Carbon Neutral Government Programme, public service agencies and non-public service departments are required to report their emission reduction plans by 1 December each year. This requirement will start from 2022.

DPMC and NEMA are currently collecting emissions data to help develop their reduction plans. These will be finalised and reported on during the 2022 calendar year.

Both reducing and offsetting emissions will be considered when developing emission reduction plans. The key areas where changes will be made to operations will be informed by DPMC and NEMA's emissions profiles, and their ability to reduce emissions.

As DPMC and NEMA have not yet developed their emission reduction plans, there are no documents within the scope of your request. I am therefore refusing your request under section 18(g) of the Act, as the information is not held by the department.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

This response will be published on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's website during our regular publication cycle. Typically, information is released monthly, or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

Yours sincerely



Clare Ward
Executive Director
Strategy, Governance and Engagement