



21 May 2026

Ref: OIA-2025/26-0637

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request: formal advice to the Minister for Infrastructure on critical infrastructure resilience

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request, which was received by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) on 4 April 2026. You requested

1. *“please provide the titles of briefings provided to the Minister for Infrastructure on the critical infrastructure programme between August 2023 and August 2025 (excluding work on cyber resilience). By critical infrastructure programme, I mean the work related to the release of this discussion document as part of Phase 1: <https://www.dPMC.govt.nz/our-programmes/national-security/critical-infrastructure/critical-infrastructure-resilience>”*
2. *please provide a briefing or other form of advice (ie A3 or memo) to the Minister for Infrastructure on whether to progress the critical infrastructure resilience work programme with a focus on 'all hazards and all risks' or significantly change its scope, including any assessment of risks associated with changing its scope.*

Happy to refine request further if required

On 8 April, you refined your request to be for

1. *The titles of briefings provided to the Minister for Infrastructure on the critical infrastructure programme between 27 October 2023 and 31 August 2025 (excluding work on cyber resilience).*
2. *Any briefing or other form of advice (e.g., A3 or memo) provided to the Minister for Infrastructure between 27 October 2023 and 31 August 2025 on whether to progress the critical infrastructure resilience work programme with a focus on "all hazards and all risks" or significantly change its scope, including any assessment of risks associated with changing its scope.*

Our previous response

On 1 May, I responded to Part 1 of your request and advised you of my decision to partially transfer both parts of your request to Te Waihanga | The Infrastructure Commission. I also notified you that the timeframe for responding to Part 2 of your request had been extended by 20 working days under section 15A of the Act, to enable necessary consultations to be undertaken before a decision could be made. Following that extension, I am now in a position to respond.

Background

Critical infrastructure is essential to New Zealand's economy, community wellbeing, and daily life, encompassing sectors such as energy, telecommunications, health, and finance, all of which face increasingly complex cyber threats in a highly connected world. To address these risks, the Government released the Cyber Security Strategy 2026–2030, prioritising stronger protection for critical systems as a matter of national security and economic stability.

Between February and April 2026, targeted consultation with industry, alongside input from communities and stakeholders, explored potential measures to strengthen cyber resilience, focusing on identifying the most critical services and determining appropriate levels of cyber defence. The proposed approach aims to improve understanding of cyber threats, establish baseline risk management standards, and ensure effective management of threats with national security implications, building on earlier feedback that highlighted the need for regulatory change and strong collaboration between government and industry. For future updates on this work please see DPMC's website: <https://www.dPMC.govt.nz/our-programmes/national-security/critical-infrastructure>.

Part 2 – Information publicly available

Identified as in scope of Part 2 of your request is the following briefing to the Minister for Infrastructure, Hon Chris Bishop, the title of which was released to you in our response to Part 1 of your request on 1 May:

Date	Document description	Decision
11 September 2024	DPMC-2024/25-114 – Briefing: Options to progress work on critical infrastructure resilience	Briefing refused under section 18(d) of the Act.

This briefing has been previously released in response to an earlier request under the Act and is publicly available on DPMC's website (page 18 onwards): <https://www.dPMC.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2025-05/dPMC-roia-oia-2024-25-0655.pdf>.

The information previously withheld in that release has been carefully reassessed prior to reaching a decision on your request. I have concluded that good reasons exist for continuing to withhold that information under the following sections of the Act:

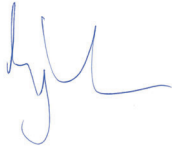
- 9(2)(a), to protect the privacy of individuals
- 9(2)(f)(iv), to maintain the confidentiality of advice tendered by or to Ministers and officials
- 9(2)(g)(i), to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinion.

In making this decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Act. No public interest has been identified that would be sufficient to outweigh the reasons for withholding that information.

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 DPMC 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.

Nāku noa, nā



Jeremy Clarke-Watson
Deputy Chief Executive
National Security and Resilience

Proactively Released