DEPARTMENT OF THE
PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET
TE TARI O TE PIRIMIA ME TE KOMITI MATUA

26 June 2026

Ref: OIA-2025/26-0807

[redacted]

Tēnā kōrua [redacted],

Official Information Act request relating to South New Brighton CERA records

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 9 June 2026. You requested:

> *"… This request concerns the CERA Zoning Review Advisory Group meetings held on 11–13 July 2012 and, in particular, the Group's consideration of South New Brighton.*
>
> *The meeting minutes record that the Group reviewed: "the key geotechnical issues for South New Brighton and the summary data (attached in Appendix 19)" before resolving not to recommend a zoning change and concluding that the relevant properties did not meet the red-zone criteria because the damage could be addressed on an individual property basis.*
>
> *I request:*
> *1. Appendix 19: Please provide Appendix 19 referred to in the meeting minutes, including all attachments, maps, tables, summaries and supporting material.*
>
> *2. South New Brighton assessment material: Please provide any briefing paper, technical assessment, recommendation, memorandum, geotechnical summary, presentation or other document prepared for the Advisory Group's consideration of South New Brighton*
>
> *3. Basis for the "individual property basis" conclusion: Please provide any document that records, explains or supports the conclusion that damage in the relevant South New Brighton properties could be addressed on an individual property basis rather than requiring an area-wide solution*
>
> *4. Post-23 December 2011 earthquake information: Please provide any record showing whether land-damage information arising from the 23 December 2011 earthquake sequence was included in Appendix 19 or otherwise considered by the Advisory Group when reviewing South New Brighton. If such information was not considered, please provide any record explaining why*
>
> *5. Area assessed: Please provide any map, schedule, locality description or other record identifying the South New Brighton area considered by the Advisory Group, including whether the locality north of Bridge Street formed part of that assessment.*
>
> *6. Record retention If the DPMC does not hold any of the requested material, please advise:*
> *• whether the records were transferred from CERA to another agency;*
> *• which agency now holds them, if known; and*
> *• whether any records have been archived, disposed of or are otherwise unavailable.*

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The primary purpose of this request is to obtain Appendix 19 and the records directly supporting the Advisory Group's conclusion regarding South New Brighton.

If any part of the request is considered broad, please process and release Appendix 19 and the associated South New Brighton decision material first, and then contact us regarding refinement of any remaining part."

Background information

The Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority (CERA) was established as a government department on 29 March 2011 to lead and coordinate the Government's response and recovery efforts following the earthquakes of 2010 and 2011 in Canterbury. CERA was disestablished on 18 April 2016. The archived content from the CERA website is hosted on the DPMC website at the following link: https://www.dpmc.govt.nz/our-programmes/other-work/historical-programmes/cera-website-archive.

Information publicly available

Searches were completed of our Information Management Systems for material related to your request. Those searches identified the publicly available document "Geotechnical information summary, South New Brighton" and is the material referred to in the Advisory Group minutes as Appendix 19 for South New Brighton. This material is publicly available on the DPMC website. The Advisory Group minutes are also publicly available. Links to these documents are included in the table below.

I am therefore refusing parts [1] to [5] of your request under section 18(d) of the Act, on the basis that the information requested is publicly available. I am satisfied that part [6] of your request has been answered as DPMC does hold, and has provided, these records.

Item	Date	Document description	Website address
1	June 2012	Geotechnical information summary, South New Brighton, June 2012.	https://www.dpmc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2024-04/geotech-summary-14-south-new-brighton.pdf
2	June 2012	Zoning Review Advisory Group June 2012 minutes.	https://www.dpmc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2024-04/zoning-review-advisory-group-minutes.pdf

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



Alan Cassidy
Deputy Chief Executive, Corporate