

11 November 2021

Withheld to protect personal privacy

Dear Withheld to protect personal privacy

I refer to your request dated 15 September 2021, pursuant to the Official Information Act (the Act) 1982, seeking all official communications between United Kingdom officials and New Zealand officials, regarding the COP26 campaigns on ending use of coal and internal combustion engine vehicles.

The table below details the documents that fall within the scope of your request and Te Manatū Waka Ministry of Transport's response to releasing these.

#	Туре	Date	Document	Description of proposed information to withhold
1	Email correspondence thread (A)	30/9/21 – 13/10/21	Email correspondence: New Zealand - COP26 declaration	Withhold information under Section 6(a) and 6(b) of the Act. Withhold personal contact details under Section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
2	Email correspondence thread (B)	6/10/21	Email correspondence: New Zealand - COP26 declaration	Withhold information under Section 6(a) and 6(b) of the Act. Withhold personal contact details under Section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
3	COP26 Declaration (Final draft)	6/10/21	COP26 declaration	Withhold information under Section 6(a) and 6(b) of the Act.



All information is being withheld under the following sections of the Act:

- Section 6(a) and (b) relating to the entrusting of information held in confidence that could prejudice the international relations of the Government of New Zealand
- Section 9(2)(a) relating to protecting the privacy of natural persons.

The correspondence between New Zealand and United Kingdom officials (document 1 and 2) and the text of the COP26 declaration (document 3) are withheld under Section 6(a) and 6(b) of the Act as information held in confidence regarding overseas signatories to the declaration. I am satisfied that releasing this correspondence would prejudice the international relations of the Government of New Zealand and/or the entrusting of information on a basis of confidence.

In regard to the information that has been withheld under section 9 of the Act, I am of the opinion that there are no countervailing considerations that make it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available.

You have the right under section 28(3) of the Act to make a complaint about the withholding of information to the Ombudsman. The Ombudsman can be contacted at info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

The Ministry publishes our Official Information Act responses and the information contained in our reply to you will be published on the Ministry website. Before publishing we will remove any personal or identifiable information.

Yours sincerely



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Jemima de Lacey Kaiwhakaneke, Te Rōpū Taiao me tōna Oranga Programme Manager, Environment, Emissions and Adaptation