



Ref: OIA 2024-028

[REDACTED]

12 August 2024

Kia ora [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request of 3 July 2024 seeking the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

“Specifically, I request any information or documents relating to climate change policy and disability or disabled people from 2010-2024. Specifically:

- *Any briefing documents, reports or communications that mention disability or disabled people in relation to work (policy, consultation, engagement or research) undertaken by He Pou a Rangī | The Climate Change Commission.*
- *Any available information relating to consultation or engagement with the disability community, Disabled Person’s Organisations or disability representative organisations in relation to work (policy, consultation, engagement or research) undertaken by He Pou a Rangī | The Climate Change Commission.”*

We appreciate that we extended the due date for the provision of the requested information and thank you for your patience while it was collated. I can advise as follows.

Response

The Commission does not advise on or set policy. What we do, and in many cases what we must consider as we do it, is specifically outlined in the Climate Change Response Act 2002.

With respect to your first bullet point, identifying *any* briefing documents, reports or communications that mention disability would involve an enterprise-wide search of emails and documents created by every person at the Commission. We consider that the results of that system interrogation would yield a significant amount of information that may not necessarily provide constructive results for you.

To provide you with what we believe will be the most useful information, we have focussed our response on the second part of your request – which relates to *“any information we have relating to our consultation or engagement with the disability community”* and we reached out to the respective Managers in the Emissions, Budgets, Adaptation and Markets Teams as well as staff working across our Sector Analysis and Communications teams so that we may provide you with more targeted information.

The Commission's work is grounded by open engagement and consultation and is underpinned by the evidence and insights gathered through engagements and analysis conducted over the course of the Commission's existence. When the Commission was established, we proactively engaged with over 700 organisations across Aotearoa to connect with people who could help us understand the needs, expectations, and constraints of New Zealanders. We have continued to engage widely to inform our advice.

What we learn through consulting and engaging forms part of our body of evidence and is used to inform our work. There are some chapters in our advice that are more directly underpinned by our engagement with representatives of the disability community, specifically:

- Chapter 20 *'Policy direction for a fair, inclusive and equitable transition from [Ināia tonu nei: a low emissions future for Aotearoa](#)* – linked on our website here: <https://www.climatecommission.govt.nz/our-work/advice-to-government-topic/inaia-tonu-nei-a-low-emissions-future-for-aotearoa/chapter-summaries/>
- Chapter 9 *'An equitable transition'* and chapter 15 *'Transport'* in our 2023 *Advice on the direction of policy for the Government's second emissions reduction plan* linked here: <https://www.climatecommission.govt.nz/our-work/advice-to-government-topic/advice-for-preparation-of-emissions-reduction-plans/2023-advice-to-inform-the-strategic-direction-of-the-governments-second-emissions-reduction-plan-april-2023/>

As a result of that, I can advise that we have information relating to the following consultations and engagements with the disability community and I have attached the recorded details we hold. Please note that some of this information has had the names of the individuals removed to protect their privacy, as we do not have their authority to disclose that level of detail. We rely on section 9(2)(a) of the Act to support this decision and do not consider that there are any countervailing public interests in the release of this personal information.

A search of the Commission's records for information on engagements and consultations, yielded the following specific interactions with the disability community:

- August & September 2020 - Series of Engagement Workshops looking at the impact future policy aimed at addressing climate change could have on New Zealanders, households, and communities. (General notes attached at Document 1 – with individual names removed in reliance on s.9(2)(a) of the Act.)
- 27 August 2020 – Equitable Transport Workshop (referenced above). (Notes attached at Document 2.)
- 17 September 2020 – Equitable Transition Workshop (referenced above). (Notes attached at Document 3.)
- 3 December 2020 – Introduction meeting with Sustained Ability (Jason Boberg) and Board Chair (Dr Rod Carr) for the purposes of referencing the disability community in the Commission's work - there are no notes from this meeting.
- 4 March 2021 – online meeting with Sustained Ability and the Disabled Persons Assembly – there are no notes from this meeting.
- 14 April 2022 – Notes from a meeting with Jason Boberg, Sustained Ability (Notes attached at Document 4.)
- 16 January 2023 – Meeting with Jason Boberg from Sustained Ability (Purpose: engagement for the Transport Chapter of the Commission's advice to inform the strategic direction of the Government's second emissions reduction plan, covering Aotearoa New Zealand's 2026–2030 emissions budget period, known as ERP2 (Emissions Reduction Plan 2).) (Notes attached at Document 5)

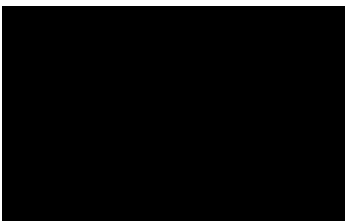
- 18 January 2023 – Meeting with Chris Ford and a regional representative from Disabled Persons Assembly (Purpose: engagement for the Transport Chapter of ERP2) (Notes attached at Document 6, with information withheld under s.9(2)(a)).
- 9 February 2023 - Online Wellbeing workshop, which included attendees from the disabled community (Disabled Persons Assembly, National Disabled Students Association, and others). You can find the link to the publicly available Zoom meeting [here](#). (Notes attached at Document 7, note some redactions to protect the privacy of individuals, under section 9(2)(a) of the Act).
- 13 November 2023 – Meeting with Disabled Persons Assembly in the context of the Commission providing a progress report on the implementation, progress, and effectiveness of the Government’s [National Adaptation Plan](#), known as NAPPA. The first progress report is due in August 2024 and will be publicly available when parliamentary processes are completed. (Notes attached at Document 8, with names withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.)
- 13 – 15 February 2024 – consultation/engagement in Dunedin regarding NAPPA – excerpt attached regarding engagement with the disability community, (Notes attached at Document 9). As above, please note that the NAPPA publication will soon be publicly released and contains aspects around equity in adaptation.

In addition to the above information, it may be of interest that the Commission meets regularly with the New Zealand Climate Action Network (NZCAN), and these meetings are open to all NZCAN members to attend. Their full membership list is available here: <https://www.nzcan.org/members> - Sustained Ability are members of NZCAN and representatives have periodically attended these regular meetings between NZCAN and the Commission.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of this response by the Office of the Ombudsman, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. Contact details for the Ombudsman can be found on their website at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz

Please note that the Commission proactively releases its responses to requests made under the Act. This is to help ensure others can also have access to this information. As such, this letter will shortly be published on our website with your name and contact details redacted to protect your privacy.

Ngā mihi



Astrid Nunns
General Manager, Strategic Operations

Annex One

Doc #	Document date	Description	Decision
1	Aug/Sep 2020	Engagement Workshops	Names withheld under s.9(2)(a)
2	27 Aug 2020	Equitable Transport Workshop	Released in full
3	17 September 2020	Equitable Transition Workshop	Released in full
4	14 April 2022	Sustained Ability: Meeting notes	Release in full
5	16 January 2023	Sustained Ability: Meeting notes	Released in full
6	18 January 2023	Disabled Person's Assembly: Meeting Notes	Released in full
7	9 February 2023	Notes from Well-being Zoom hui	Names withheld under s.9(2)(a)
8	13 November 2023	Disabled Person's Assembly: Meeting Notes	Names withheld under s.9(2)(a)
9	13-15 February	Dunedin Notes	Names withheld under s.9(2)(a)

[UNCLASSIFIED]

[UNCLASSIFIED]