

1 December 2025

Re: Official information request

I refer to your official information request dated 3 November 2025 for the following:

Under the Official Information Act 1982, I request all information held by Ferry Holdings Ltd from 1 March 2025 to the present relating to the scope and cost of the ferry infrastructure works at Picton and Wellington.

In particular, I am seeking:

- 1. Any internal or external reports, assessments, briefings, or correspondence identifying or discussing increases in the expected cost, scope, or complexity of the infrastructure works since the adoption of the “minimal scope” approach.*
- 2. Engineering, design, or technical advice on the condition, capacity, or limitations of existing wharves, linkspans, and yard infrastructure, and whether additional or upgraded works are required to accommodate the new ferries, trains, or freight volumes.*
- 3. Any risk assessments, project updates, or cost estimates noting that the reuse of existing infrastructure may be insufficient, impractical, or more expensive than anticipated.*
- 4. Communications between Ferry Holdings and KiwiRail, Port Marlborough, CentrePort, the Ministry of Transport, the Treasury, or Ministers discussing these issues, including any warnings about delivery risks, scope changes, or funding pressures.*

Please include material from emails, meeting notes, project documentation, and correspondence.

Given that the negotiations for the new ferries have now been completed and publicly announced, the reasons for refusal previously cited under sections 9(2)(b)(ii) and 9(2)(j) no longer appear to apply.

In any event, I believe there is a strong public interest in understanding the true scope and cost of the project, particularly in light of past cost overruns under iReX and the government’s stated commitment to transparency in major infrastructure spending.

If any parts of this request are considered to remain commercially sensitive, please provide all reasonably severable information or summaries rather than withholding in full.

We are declining your request under s(18d) of the Official Information Act 1982 as some of the requested information will soon be publicly available on the Ferry Holdings website in February 2026.

We are also declining your request under s9(2)(i) as making the remaining information available would prejudice Ferry Holdings from carrying out commercial activities, and,



making the information available would prejudice Ferry Holdings from carrying out negotiations (s9(2)(j)).

Ferry Holdings is in the process of negotiating Development Agreements with the port companies, which are expected to be finalised in mid-2026. Once those commercial negotiations are concluded we will release more information about them to the public.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please contact info@ferryholdings.co.nz.

Please be advised that this OIA will be published on our website (www.ferryholdings.co.nz) on 2 December 2025.

Your sincerely



Sandip Ranchhod
Chief Executive
Ferry Holdings Limited

