

Official Information request reference 2021-001

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

2 March 2021

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 1 February 2021, where you requested information in relation to a tweet by Jenee Tibshraeny on the release of the Climate Change Commission's (the Commission) draft advice.

[REDACTED]

Is this true

@ClimateCommNZ

? Preventing financial media from early access makes you seem anything but objective.

Please consider this an OIA.

@JeneeTibshraeny

· Jan 31

V disappointed the @ClimateCommNZ only released its draft advice under embargo to a selection of hand-picked journalists, giving them time to prepare decent stories & leaving the rest of us scrambling. I asked twice last week & again this morning and was told no.

Our response to your request is outlined below.

Ms Tibshraeny did request an embargoed copy of the Commission's draft advice before its release. In accordance with the process approved by the Commission's Chair, the Commission declined Ms Tibshraeny's request.

An embargoed copy of the draft advice was provided in advance to a small number of journalists who regularly reported on climate change – this included environment, social issues and business reporters. It is

important to note that no one received any financial or market sensitive information in advance of the full report being publicly released at 2pm on Sunday 31 January.

Ms Tibshraeny has raised concerns directly with the Commission about the process for how this information was released. The Commission's Communications and Engagement Manager has spoken to her about her concerns and discussed her suggestions for how future information releases could be improved. The Commission has taken on board this feedback and is considering ways to improve the release of its advice for consultation in the future.

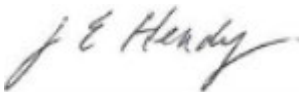
I hope this information meets your needs. The Commission is a small organisation with a targeted mandate laid out in legislation. In our commitment to working as transparently as we can and providing access to information and evidence, we have worked to process this within the required timeframes.

The Commission has received a number of OIA requests since it released its draft advice. The Commission does not have dedicated resourcing within its structure for processing the volume of requests it has received recently and has taken on extra resource to process these and ensure we provide information to the public to help them understand our work.

It is a function of the Ombudsmen to review and investigate any decisions made under the Official Information Act 1982(OIA). For information on "Review of Decisions", please refer to Part 5 of the OIA.

Please note that the Commission has a policy of proactive release of OIA responses to help others have access to more information so this letter will shortly be published on the website with your name and contact details redacted to protect your privacy.

Kind regards,



Jo Hendy
Chief Executive
He Pou a Rangi – Climate Change Commission