



DOIA20/21070592

s 9(2)(a)

Dear s 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email on 6 July 2021 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

1. *The status of the assessment of the prison land on Mt Crawford, Miramar, for Kiwibuild etc. Has it been concluded, what was the result?*
2. *The reason for the appearance today of a drilling rig on site?*

No firm plans have been developed for the Mount Crawford site. Taranaki Whānui (working on behalf of the Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust) has proactively engaged with Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga – the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (for the Crown) as its Treaty partner to explore a partnership opportunity to develop the Mt Crawford site. Current discussions are focussed on the continued investigation of the site's housing potential, as agreed in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Ministry and Taranaki Whānui Limited.

As previously stated, in the case of Mt Crawford, there is surplus Corrections and Defence land which is subject to a right of first refusal in favour of Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust.

Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust has organised geotechnical investigations as part of the due diligence work to determine if the site is suitable for housing. Toitū Te Whenua Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) administers the site and provided access.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of my response by the Ombudsman, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on the Ombudsman's website www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

As part of our ongoing commitment to openness and transparency, the Ministry proactively releases information and documents that may be of interest to the public. As such, this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on our website.

Yours sincerely

Phil Stroud
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Land Acquisition and Development