

Subject: OIA 2025/02: Request for information on climate-related Cabinet papers
Date: Friday, 21 February 2025 at 4:09:01 PM New Zealand Daylight Time
From: Enquiries <enquiries@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
To: OIA@mbie.govt.nz <OIA@mbie.govt.nz>
Attachments: image002.jpg, image004.png, 20250221 McGuinness OIA 2025-02 Climate-related Cabinet papers.xlsx, image001.png

Kia ora,

Our OIA 2025/02: Request for information on climate-related Cabinet papers

We are treating the new questions below as a new OIA, although the OIA 2024/13 requests in May 2024 and October 2024 are related (see the schedule on our website [here](#)).

Working Paper 2025/03: List of Climate-related Cabinet papers, dated 2001–2024 (WIP)

The Institute is currently in the process of completing *Working Paper 2025/03: List of Climate-related Cabinet papers Dated 2001–2024*. This working paper aims to create a list of all climate-related Cabinet papers, and accompanying Cabinet Committee and Cabinet minutes that have been produced and proactively released between 2001 and 31 December 2024. The Institute’s intention is to ensure that there is a comprehensive list of Cabinet papers that set out New Zealand’s public policy response to climate change.

The February 2025 table (see [here](#) and Excel attached) has been updated. The new 2025 table takes into account:

- (i) Your 2024 correspondence;
- (ii) Cabinet papers published between May 2024 and 31 December 2024;
- (iii) Chapter 5: Cabinet Decision-making in the *2023 Cabinet Manual* (see [here](#)); and
- (iv) A new definition. A ‘climate-related Cabinet paper’ is a Cabinet paper that:
 - a. Discusses risks, costs and/or opportunities that climate change may create.
 - b. Discusses how New Zealand might adapt to or mitigate the impacts of climate change over the long-term.
 - c. The content is forward-looking, strategic (rather than operational) and of significant scale.

Given the above, we made the following changes:

- (i) Made minor title changes to better reflect the content of the Cabinet paper (as in some cases only the titles of the accompanying minutes had been given);
- (ii) Added individual columns for the Cabinet paper, the accompanying Cabinet Committee minute and finally the Cabinet minute (see [Figure 1 below](#)) to better reflect the decision-making process of Cabinet;
- (iii) Included Cabinet papers (and their accompanying minutes) that had previously been missed by the Institute. This resulted in the addition of 25 Cabinet papers (see green rows in attached Excel); and
- (iv) Removed Cabinet papers that did not meet our refined definition of ‘climate-related’ (see criteria above). This resulted in the removal of 35 Cabinet papers.

New questions

There are four parts to this request.

Part One: Cabinet decision-making process

Q1: Does Figure 1 below accurately reflect the standard process for Cabinet decision-making? Please provide any suggestions or additions you have to the text or stages.

Q2: We have noticed that in most cases Cabinet papers do not have a reference number stated in the document itself. In these cases, can we assume these papers have the same reference number as the related Cabinet/Cabinet committee minute? This is what we have assumed, see excerpt of Excel in box below.

Row number (Col. A)	Paper and minute reference numbers	Stage 1: Paper lodged with Cabinet Office		Stage 2: Cabinet Committee	
	All reference numbers in the series (Col. B)	Date paper lodged with Cabinet Office (Col. C)	Title of paper and link. Note: Papers are referred to as SUBs (Col. D)	Date paper considered by Committee (Col. E)	Name of Committee (Col. F)
80	ENV-22-SUB-0048 ENV-22-MIN-0048 CAB-22-MIN-0508	NK	[ENV-22-SUB-0048] Implementing the Financial Sector (Climate-related Disclosures and Other Matters Amendment Act 2021	20221110	Cabi and

Part Two: Missing information

Q1: Filter for MBIE (Col. J) and then please add missing information (identified in red text) in Col. B to K, if readily available.

Part Three: Points of clarification of existing Cabinet papers

Q1-3: See ‘Col. L: McGuinness Institute comment’. See yellow highlighted cells in rows 60, 72 and 86 (please note some rows have more than one question).

Part Four: Questions on Cabinet papers released after May 2024

Q1: Are there any Cabinet papers missing that meet the criteria for being ‘climate-related’ and were published by MBIE between 23 May 2024 and 31 December 2024?

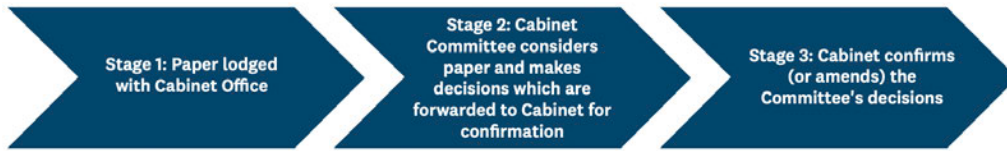
Q2: If yes, could MBIE add these papers in a new row at the bottom of the Excel and fill in Cols. B to K (i.e. row 115 onwards)?

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or points of clarification.

Thank you in advance,

Wendy

Figure 1: Illustration of the standard process for Cabinet decision-making



Subject: OIA 2025/02: Request for information on climate-related Cabinet papers
Date: Friday, 21 February 2025 at 4:07:11 PM New Zealand Daylight Time
From: Enquiries <enquiries@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
To: [REDACTED]
Attachments: image003.png, image001.png, 20250221 McGuinness OIA 2025-02 Climate-related Cabinet papers.xlsx

Kia ora,

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New questions

There are three parts to this request.

Part One: Cabinet decision-making process

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Q2: We have noticed that in most cases Cabinet papers do not have a reference number stated in the document itself. In these cases, can we assume these papers have the same reference number as the related Cabinet/Cabinet committee minute? This is what we have assumed, see excerpt of Excel in box below.

Row number (Col. A)	Paper and minute reference numbers (Col. B)	Stage 1: Paper lodged with Cabinet Office		Stage 2: Cabinet Committee	
		Date paper lodged with Cabinet Office (Col. C)	Title of paper and link. Note: Papers are referred to as SUBs (Col. D)	Date paper considered by Committee (Col. E)	Name (Col. F)
80	ENV-22-SUB-0048 ENV-22-MIN-0048 CAB-22-MIN-0508	NK	[ENV-22-SUB-0048] Implementing the Financial Sector (Climate-related Disclosures and Other Matters Amendment Act 2021	20221110	Cabi and

Part Two: Missing information

Q1: Filter for MFAT (Col. J) and then please add missing information (identified in red text) in Col. B to K, if readily available.

Part Three: Questions on Cabinet papers released after May 2024

Q1: Are there any Cabinet papers missing that meet the criteria for being ‘climate-related’ and were published by MFAT between 23 May 2024 and 31 December 2024?

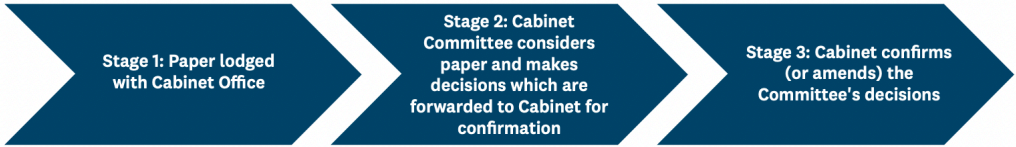
Q2: If yes, could MFAT add these papers in a new row at the bottom of the Excel and fill in Cols. B to K (i.e. row 115 onwards)?

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Figure 1: Illustration of the standard process for Cabinet decision-making



Stage 1: Paper lodged with Cabinet Office

Stage 2: Cabinet Committee considers paper and makes decisions which are forwarded to Cabinet for confirmation

Stage 3: Cabinet confirms (or amends) the Committee's decisions

Subject: FW: OIA 2025/02: Request for information on climate-related Cabinet papers
Date: Friday, 21 February 2025 at 3:52:15 PM New Zealand Daylight Time
From: Enquiries <enquiries@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
To: [REDACTED]
Attachments: image002.jpg, image003.png, image004.png, image005.png, image006.png, image007.png, image008.png, 20250221 McGuinness OIA 2025-02 Climate-related Cabinet papers.xlsx, image001.png, image009.png

Opps, just resending excerpt box for you (clearly got squeezed)

Happy Friday, Wendy McGuinness

Row number (Col. A)	Paper and minute reference numbers (Col. B)	Stage 1: Paper lodged with Cabinet Office		Stage 2: Cabinet Committee	
		Date paper lodged with Cabinet Office (Col. C)	Title of paper and link. Note: Papers are referred to as SUBs (Col. D)	Date paper considered by Committee (Col. E)	Name (Col. F)
80	ENV-22-SUB-0048 ENV-22-MIN-0048 CAB-22-MIN-0508	NK	[ENV-22-SUB-0048] Implementing the Financial Sector (Climate-related Disclosures and Other Matters Amendment Act 2021	20221110	Cabi and

From: Enquiries <enquiries@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
Date: Friday, 21 February 2025 at 2:51 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: OIA@mfe.govt.nz <OIA@mfe.govt.nz>
Subject: OIA 2025/02: Request for information on climate-related Cabinet papers

Kia ora [REDACTED]

Our OIA 2025/02: Request for information on climate-related Cabinet papers

Thanks so much for your help last year, your input was greatly appreciated. We are treating the new questions below as a new OIA, although the OIA 2024/13 requests in May 2024 and October 2024 are related (see the schedule on our website [here](#)).

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Friday, February 21, 2025 at 16:18:39 New Zealand Daylight Time

Subject: OIA 2025/02: Request for information on climate-related Cabinet papers
Date: Friday, 21 February 2025 at 4:04:39 PM New Zealand Daylight Time
From: Enquiries <enquiries@mcguinnessinstitute.org>
To: [REDACTED]
Attachments: image002.jpg, image004.png, image001.png, 20250221 McGuinness OIA 2025-02 Climate-related Cabinet papers.xlsx

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Part Two: Missing information

Q1: Filter for MPI (Col. J) and then please add missing information (identified in red text) in Col. B to K, if readily available.

Part Three: Points of clarification of existing Cabinet papers

Q1-4: See 'Col. L: McGuinness Institute comment'. See yellow highlighted cells in rows 22, 40, 71 and 100 (please note some rows have more than one question).

Part Four: Questions on Cabinet papers released after May 2024

Q1: Are there any Cabinet papers missing that meet the criteria for being 'climate-related' and were published by MPI between 23 May 2024 and 31 December 2024?

Q2: If yes, could MPI add these papers in a new row at the bottom of the Excel and fill in Cols. B to K (i.e. row 115 onwards)?

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or points of clarification.

Thank you in advance,

Wendy

Figure 1: Illustration of the standard process for Cabinet decision-making

