



16 JUN 2026

OIA26-CB069 / 26-OIAM-01163

Ben Ross
By email: ben.r001@gmail.com

Dear Ben,

Thank you for your email of 30 April 2026 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Minimum Parking Requirements

- 1. What advice has the Minister received regarding Minimum Parking Requirements including evidence of the negative consequences caused by these requirements being in Planning laws and documents*
- 2. Is the Minister aware that no submissions to the National Policy Statement - Urban Development requested the return of Minimum Parking Requirements? And the summary of submissions to the NPS-UD provided by MfE clearly and categorically stated no submitter including Auckland Council wanted Minimum Parking Requirements to return to the Planning regime?*
- 3. If Minimum Parking Requirements were to return where would they be placed? Why is the text in the Planning Bill or back in the NPS-UD?*
- 4. Despite submissions clearly stating that no Council wants Minimum Parking Requirements do return, if they were to return will it be open to the full submission rounds again?*
- 5. Finally in light of comments raised by Auckland Councillor for Howick Bo Burns, regarding on-street parking problems apparently caused by urban development in Auckland, what will the Minister consider to make it easier and less costly for Councils to roll out interventions such as No Stopping at All Times Lines (yellow lines) and paid parking without being bogged down in needless and unnecessary consultation rounds?*

The Act provides for the release of official information that is held by Ministers and agencies. It does not require Ministers to provide opinions, commentary, or speculative responses to hypothetical questions where this would involve creating new information.

I have responded to your request in two parts. The first addresses your request for the advice I have received, and the second part responds to your additional questions. I apologise for the delay in responding to your request.

Part 1: Advice received regarding Minimum Parking Requirements

I have identified seven documents in scope of your request, as listed in the document schedule below.

I am releasing two documents to you in part, with some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of natural persons. I am releasing excerpts from two documents under 16(1)(e) of the Act, as only some of the material contained within these documents is in scope of your request.

I am refusing three requests under section 18(d) of the Act, as the information is or will soon be publicly available. Where the material is already publicly available, a link is provided in the document schedule. The remaining document is expected to be published on the Ministry for the Environment's website by the end of June 2026.

In terms of section 9(1) of the Act, I am satisfied that, in the circumstances, the withholding of information in this request is not outweighed by other considerations that render it desirable to make the information available in the public interest.

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

Part 2: Response to your questions relating to changes to car parking minimum requirements

The Ministry for the Environment and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development last consulted on the National Policy Statement on Urban Development (NPS-UD) in 2019. The summary of submissions, published in May 2020, indicated strong support for removing minimum car parking requirements. The summary of submissions can be found at: <https://environment.govt.nz/assets/Publications/Files/FINAL-NPS-UD-Summary-of-submissions.pdf>.

In 2025, consultation on Going for Housing Growth Pillar 1 identified no opposition to retaining the NPS-UD policy against minimum car parking standards. The summary of submissions for the 2025 consultation on Pillar 1 can be found at: <https://www.hud.govt.nz/documents/summary-of-submissions-for-pillar-1-of-going-for-housing-growth>.

On 16 February 2026, Cabinet directed officials to explore options to enable the provision and management of car parking as part of the policy development for the new planning system. Decisions any changes are yet to be made.

Please contact my office if you have any queries about this response.

Yours sincerely,



Hon Chris Bishop
Minister Responsible for RMA Reform

Document schedule

#	Date	Title	Decision	Grounds	Link (if applicable)
1	24 June 2024	Cabinet paper – Going for Housing Growth: Implementing the First Stage	Refused in full	18(d)	https://www.hud.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Documents/Proactive-Releases/Cabinet-Paper-Going-for-Housing-Growth-Implementing-the-First-Stage.pdf
2	24 June 2024	Cabinet minute – CAB-24-MIN-0228.01 Going for Housing Growth: Implementing the First Stage	Refused in full	18(d)	https://www.hud.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Documents/Proactive-Releases/CAB-24-MIN-0228.01-Minute-Going-for-Housing-Growth.pdf
3	14 Aug 2024	BRF-5117 HUD2024-005137 Going for Housing Growth – Carparking management in New Zealand	Released in part	9(2)(a)	
4	27 Sept 2024	HUD2024-005265 MfE BRF-5288 Going for Housing Growth – Car parking options	Released in part	9(2)(a)	
5	29 Aug 2025	BRF-6729 HUD2025-007871 Achieving GHG outcomes in RM reform	Refused in full	18(d)	Soon to be published at: https://environment.govt.nz/what-government-is-doing/cabinet-papers-and-regulatory-impact-statements/next-steps-following-the-ministerial-inquiry-into-land-use-in-tairarwhiti-gisborne-and-wairoa/
6	16 Feb 2026	Cabinet paper – Changes to the legislative requirements for Auckland Council’s Plan Change 120	Released in part	16(1)(e)	Released excerpt
7	16 Feb 2026	Cabinet Minute – CAB-26-MIN-0037 Changes to the legislative requirements for Auckland Council’s Plan Change 120	Released in part	16(1)(e)	Released excerpt