



12/11/2024



OIA: 1324169 – Decision to build an additional teaching block at Rolleston College

Thank you for your email of 4 March 2024 to the Ministry of Education (the Ministry), for the following information:

- 1. Can I please request all information relating to the decision to build the additional permanent two storey teaching block at Rolleston College (currently under construction on the Goulds Road side of the college).*
- 2. Please provide all correspondence, including emails between MOE staff, contractors and Rolleston College BOT and/or management, relating to the building of the new teaching block including any correspondence concerning decisions around when to build the additional teaching block that was taken at the time Rolleston College was initially built.*

Thank you also for your email of 18 March 2024 in which you amended your request to be for the following information:

Please provide all KEY correspondence relating to the building of the new teaching block.

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

We apologise that it has taken longer than we would have hoped to release this information to you, and appreciate that this delay will have been frustrating for you.

In 2014, the Ministry identified that Rolleston College (the College) should be built to accommodate an initial roll of 1,100 students, with the expectation that it would in future need to accommodate up to 1,800 students and may grow beyond this number. Construction on Stage 1, delivering 1,100 student places at the College, began in 2017 under the Public Private Partnership (PPP) framework.

In 2018, the Ministry identified that the rate of residential redevelopment was occurring significantly faster than anticipated, and that there was a need to deliver Stage 2, 700 additional student places by 2021. As a consequence of the accelerated growth, a report was provided to the Minister of Education, seeking approval to begin negotiations to expand a number of PPP schools, including the second stage of the College.

The Ministry engaged the PPP Contractor through an amended existing contract to design the expansion of the school in 2020. The design was reviewed by a Design Assurance Panel comprising Ministry staff and architects in 2021, and this endorsed the proposal to build a two-storey, 28 teaching space block, including the site location.

The Ministry followed a process to seek funding for a number of PPP expansions, including the College, through Budget 2020. In 2021, the Ministry confirmed the funding requirements and instructed the PPP consortium to lead the funding and construction and ongoing facilities maintenance, in line with the existing facility.

In 2023, a shortfall of funding was identified following construction tenders and negotiations with the PPP Contractor to amend the existing contract. The Ministry sought endorsement from the Ministers of Education and Finance to proceed with the project.

The Project Steering Group (PSG), comprising the Ministry, School, PPP Consortium and the build contractor, met monthly and continue to do so. A copy of the PSG report and minutes relevant to the date of your request is attached for your reference.

The expansion is due to complete later this year. In the interim, to support the need for additional capacity, temporary classrooms have been provided until the new building is available.

We have interpreted your request to be for the key documents relating to the 2019 decision to build, both leading to the decision and during the build. We have identified 17 documents in scope, attached as **Appendix A** and as outlined in the **Appendix A Document Table**. The documents relate to key decisions for the need to expand the existing College site and financial approvals, which are separate to the development of a second campus for the College. We have not considered any design documentation to be within scope of this request.

I am withholding some information from these documents under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of natural persons and section 9(2)(j) of the Act, to enable a Minister of the Crown or any public service agency or organisation holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).

As required under section 9(1) of the Act, I have considered the public interest in releasing the information withheld. I do not consider the public interest considerations favouring the release of this information are sufficient to outweigh the need to withhold it at this time.

Please note, we may publish this response on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed.

Thank you again for your email. You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review our decision on your request, in accordance with section 28 of the Act. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or to Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sam Fowler'.

Sam Fowler

Head of Property

Te Pou Hanganga, Matihiko | Infrastructure and Digital

Appendix A Document Table

#	Date	Title	Decision on release
1	15 May 2014	Memo: Rolleston Secondary School – Recommended school size	Release in part. Information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
2	July 2018	Secondary School Provision in Rolleston July 2018	Release in full.
3	2 November 2018	PPP expansion options analysis	Withhold in full. Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(j) of the Act.
4	29 April 2019	Education Report: 1182996: Managing roll growth at existing PPP schools	Release in part. Information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
5	August 2019	Rolleston College PRF	Release in part. Information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
6	10 September 2019	Email: Rolleston College Roll Growth Expansion	Release in part. Information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
7	27 September 2019	Memo: Rolleston Secondary Provision: Rolleston College and the second secondary provision	Release in full.
8	21 February 2020	CN 123 - Future Schools Partnership – early design engagement	Withhold in full. Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(j) of the Act.
9	25 August 2020	CN 129 - Rolleston College expansion procurement documentation	Withhold in full. Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(j) of the Act.
10	21 July 2021	Design Review Panel Report	Release in part. Information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
11	August 2021	Rolleston College Business Case (PPP) Midway IB	Release in part. Information withheld under sections 9(2)(a) and 9(2)(j) of the Act.
12	13 September 2021	CN144 – Rolleston Procurement (Executed)	Withhold in full. Information has been withheld under section 9(2)(j) of the Act.

#	Date	Title	Decision on release
13	15 June 2022	Email: Re: Meeting with Contractors	Release in part. Information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
14	15 March 2023	Title withheld under section 9(2)(j) of the Act.	Withhold in full. Information withheld under section 9(2)(j) of the Act.
15	17 March 2023	Education Report: 1306911: Progressing the expansion of Rolleston College	Release in part. Information withheld under sections 9(2)(a) and 9(2)(j) of the Act.
16		New Zealand Schools 2: Rolleston College Expansion: Future Schools expansion works provisioning report for PCG and PSG (March 2024)	Release in part. Information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
17	19 March 2024	Rolleston College Expansion PSG meeting	Release in part. Information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.