



New Zealand Post Group

Postal address

New Zealand Post Limited
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Wellington Mail Centre
Lower Hutt 5045
New Zealand

Physical address

New Zealand Post Limited
New Zealand Post House
7 Waterloo Quay
Wellington

21 November 2018

Simon Pleasants

By email only: fyi-request-8999-24344bee@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Pleasants,

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 request dated 5 November, 2018. Your request states:

Is New Zealand Post implementing a project that involves closure, sale or divestment of the current Post Shop (post office), or any of its services, on Johnsonville Road in Johnsonville? If so, please provide

- Details of the current stage of the project
- A copy of the project plan, including your rationale and any proposed timeline
- An outline of your plan to consult with local residents about these plans.

For almost 10 years New Zealand Post has been moving to partner with local businesses to help us offer postal services to communities across New Zealand.

This is a model that works well for NZ Post, in the climate of rapidly declining mail volumes (approx. 63 million fewer letters in the last financial year), as it comes with less fixed costs, and allows us to maintain a retail network to service our customers across the country. It works well for the businesses we work with as well, as they enjoy more customers coming through the doors to use postal services, and it works well for our customers, as it means we can stay in these communities. It also often means longer opening hours and better accessibility.

NZ Post is now at a stage where we can reveal we are now searching for a local business in Johnsonville to help us offer postal services to the Johnsonville community. In relation to the building itself, we provide the information that it is owned by New Zealand Post, and that its use and ownership are under review by our Properties team, for implementation once the change of postal services to a local host business is completed.

I enclose the following information which is covered by your request:

- A media release on New Zealand Post's plans for search for a local business in Johnsonville to offer postal services to the community, released on 21 November, 2018
- FAQs relating to this search

- Extracts from a NZ Post Board paper dated 17 November, 2017 referring to the rationale for the move from New Zealand Post-owned or leased properties to local host businesses
- The communications plan applicable to the changes announced today in the Wellington area.

Some of the information that you have requested is being withheld under the following sections

- (a) section 9(2)(b)(ii), as withholding that information is necessary to protect information that, if disclosed, would be likely to unreasonably prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.
- (b) To protect the **privacy** of natural persons;
- (c) section 9(2)(j), as withholding that information is necessary to enable New Zealand Post to carry out its **commercial activities or carry on negotiations without prejudice** or disadvantage

We have considered whether **other public interest considerations** would favour the disclosure of the information, but have concluded that such considerations do not outweigh the specified interests.

You have the right to complain to the Ombudsman under section 28 of the Official Information Act to seek an investigation and review of our decision to withhold the information.

OIA Officer
NZ Post