Manatu Taonga Ministry for Culture & Heritage

16 November 2016

Nigel Gray

fyi-request-4924-d6279d8d@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Gray

I refer to your email of 9 November 2016 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), information regarding full-blooded Māori left in New Zealand. Specifically:

- a. how many, and according to what genealogy records?
- b. if not, what percentage is the greatest percentage of "purity" or least mix of race and most Māori?
- c. if there are no full-blooded (by which I mean a genealogy line that shows only Maori descendants and no other race in lineage) can you please tell me when the last remaining full-blooded Māori was alive and date of death?
- d. any records along with this information verifying it.

Your request for information is being refused under section 18(g)(i) and (ii) of the OIA as the information requested is not held by the Ministry for Culture and Heritage, and the Ministry has no grounds for believing that the information is held by another department or Minister of the Crown or organisation, or by a local authority; or connected more closely with the functions of another department or Minister of the Crown or organisation or of a local authority.

Officials from Statistics New Zealand have advised the Census collects information about 'people identifying as Māori living in New Zealand' as well as their iwi affiliation (if known), but not about genealogy in any way.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

Kim Rex

Manager, Ministerial Services