

# Hon Andrew Little

Minister of Justice

Minister for Courts

Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations

Minister Responsible for the NZSIS

Minister Responsible for the GCSB

Minister Responsible for Pike River Re-entry



John Luke  
fyi-request-10808-28d581d0@requests.fyi.org.nz

11 SEP 2019

Dear Mr Luke

## Official Information Act 1982 request

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request of 25 July 2019 about information relating to court appointed interpreters. Specifically, you requested:

1. *The number of court appointed interpreters in Auckland and Wellington courts.*
2. *The number of interpreters that have been appointed for the Immigration and Protection Tribunal.*
3. *The names of those interpreters.*

On 9 August 2019, your request was clarified by the Ministry of Justice (the Ministry):

- *To include all courts in the wider Auckland and Wellington regions (Auckland/South Auckland/ Manukau, and Wellington/Porirua/The Hutt Valley); and*
- *to include the number of events that had an interpreter.*

Before I respond to your request, I would like to apologise for the delay. You should note that interpreters used by the District and High Court of New Zealand are appointed by a Deputy Registrar of the District Court, usually a Service Manager or Court Registry Officer. However, interpreters aren't provided with any certification or identification by the Ministry, and they are not technically employed by the Ministry.

In response to questions 1 and 2 of your request, please see the attached tables. Table 1 counts the number of available interpreter providers. Table 2 counts the number of events that had an interpreter present.

The information you have requested in question 3 is withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA to protect the privacy of natural persons.

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to complain to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the OIA. You can contact the Office of the Ombudsman by writing to PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143; calling 0800 802 602; or emailing [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz)

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A Little', written over a faint grey signature line.

Hon Andrew Little  
**Minister for Courts**  
**Minister of Justice**

**Table 1: Number of available interpreter providers based on data extracted from the Ministry's Case Management System**

Interpreters across New Zealand	247
Interpreters specific to Wellington and Auckland Courts	127
Interpreters specific to the Immigration and Protection Tribunal	37

Notes:

- Individuals and service providers are counted once.
- Service providers may contain multiple interpreters.

**Table 2: Number of events that had an interpreter present based on data extracted from the Ministry's Case Management System**

Interpreters specific to Wellington and Auckland Courts	5024
Interpreters specific to the Immigration and Protection Tribunal	30

Notes:

- The Ministry's Case Management System counts the number of events an interpreter.