



25 June 2010

Patron:
His Excellency The Honourable
Sir Anand Satyanand, GNZM, QSO
Governor-General of New Zealand

Matt Lane,
requests@fyi.org.nz

Dear Matt

RE: Official Information Act Request: A copy of the Historic Places Trust Register

Thank you for email of 10 June 2010 requesting a copy of the New Zealand Historic Places Trust (NZHPT) Register in electronic form.

Under Section 18 of the Official Information Act (OIA) 1982, requests may be refused if the information requested is or will soon be publicly available.

The Historic Places Act 1993 (HPA) sets out the NZHPT's legal obligations for providing public access to Register information. Section 36 of the HPA requires that:

The register shall be open for public inspection during usual business hours at the principle office of the Trust in Wellington and at the regional offices of the Trust.

The NZHPT complies with this requirement by providing hard copies of the full Register to each of its offices, which you are welcome to view. The content of the Register is therefore already publicly available and is not covered by the OIA.

The NZHPT supplies each district, city and regional council with a copy of the Register relevant to their area of responsibility which is updated quarterly and replaced annually and is also available for public inspection.

As you know, the NZHPT also provides free access to information on historic places and historic areas via the Register Online. I appreciate that this format is not the preferred form for your project. Finally, as you mention in your email, the NZHPT also provides access to Register information in other forms. This service provides information updated on a quarterly basis for a nominal fee of \$300 plus GST

Yours sincerely,

Geraldine Baumann
Senior Legal Adviser