

James Watson
Fyi-request-12481-d5e15283@requests.fyi.org.nz

6 May 2020

Our ref: OIA 81304

Dear Mr Watson

Official Information Act request: Cabinet Papers relating to The Treaty of Waitangi and the Foreshore and Seabed Act 2004

Thank you for your request made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC). Your request was subsequently refined on 20 March 2020 and then transferred to the relevant agencies. The Ministry of Justice received your request on 3 April 2020 as follows:

- “(a) all Cabinet papers since 2005 which discuss the constitutional status of the Treaty of Waitangi.*
- (b) all Cabinet papers relating to the foreshore and seabed act 2004”*

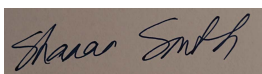
The Ministry is working on preparing a response to your request which is due today, 6 May 2020. We have identified a significant number of documents that fall within the scope of your request and for which we will need to consult various organisations.

Due to the COVID-19 alert level 4 and subsequent alert level 3, both the Ministry’s ability to consult with these organisations and their ability to respond to us have been severely hampered and therefore a response cannot reasonably be made within the original time limit. I am extending the time limit for response to this request by 60 working days under section 15A of the Act and will respond to you by 30 July 2020. I appreciate that this is a long extension and we will endeavour to provide the information to you before then should it be possible.

If you require any further information, please contact Jerram Watts, Acting Team Leader, Media and External Relations, by calling (04) 918 8980; or emailing media@justice.govt.nz

You have the right under section 28(3) of the Act to complain to the Ombudsman about the decision to extend the time for responding to your request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by emailing info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Yours sincerely



Shanan Smith
Manager, Ministerial Relations and Services