



**National Headquarters**

Level 12  
80 The Terrace  
PO Box 2133  
Wellington  
New Zealand

Phone +64 4 496 3600

30 June 2020

John Luke

By email: [fyi-request-13032-6801687f@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-13032-6801687f@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear John

**Information Request – Local Advisory Committees**

I refer to your official information request dated 5 June 2020 asking for the following information in relation to the Local Advisory Committees (LACs) recently established by Fire and Emergency New Zealand in accordance with the Fire and Emergency New Zealand Act 2017, or yet to be established:

- the number of people who were nominated for each LAC
- the number of people who made it to the second round of interview for each LAC
- the number of people who have been appointed for each LAC
- if the decision has been made to when other LACs will be established
- what is the methodology on determining the number of members who sit on the LAC for different regions.

In accordance with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982, I *enclose* the information you requested.

Local Advisory Committee	No. of persons nominated	No. of persons interviewed*	No. of persons appointed to the committee
Northland	31	15	7
Tairāwhiti	18	13	6
Hawke's Bay	24	14	7
Chatham Islands	6	6	5
Marlborough	22	16	9
West Coast	16	15	7
Otago	35	21	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>50</b>

\*Fire and Emergency shortlisted from the nominations received and held one round of interviews not two.

Profiles of each appointed member are available on our website at <https://fireandemergency.nz/lacs/> under the “Where Local Advisory Committees are now established” heading.

### **Establishment of other LACs**

Fire and Emergency’s Statement of Performance Expectations for 2019/2020 – published and presented to Parliament in accordance with the Crown Entities Act 2004 – required seven LACs to be established. This has been achieved. We will be evaluating the performance of the first seven LACs and using what we learn to inform the timing and approach to the establishment of the remaining LACs for rest of New Zealand.

### **Methodology**

Under the Fire and Emergency New Zealand (Local Advisory Committees) Regulations 2018, the minimum number of members for a LAC is five with no upper limit specified. The five-member minimum includes a chairperson, a deputy chairperson, and at least three other members.<sup>1</sup> Otherwise, the Board determines how many people to appoint to each LAC as part of the appointment process. This decision is made after consideration of a range of factors, including: the characteristics of the individuals being considered for appointment and their anticipated ability (as both individuals and a group) to engage with a range of communities within a local area; the geographic size and demographics of each local area; and the need for diversity and a range of perspectives across LAC members. This decision is evaluative and based on the Board’s judgement in each case, rather than being the output of a specific formula or set of predetermined rules about the number of members for each LAC.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this response. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Raewyn Bleakley  
Deputy Chief Executive, Office of the Chief Executive

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<sup>1</sup> The Board may decide that a committee is to have only two other members in addition to the chairperson and deputy chairperson in certain circumstances.