

5 October 2020

By email:

fyi-request-13842-98c010f3@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Sheridan

Request for information about the investigation into NZ First Foundation

I refer to your email dated 9 September 2020 requesting the following information:

“Please issue me under urgency any and all information as to when you will issue information on your enquiry into the NZ First Foundation and why it has not met a deadline of 28 September 2020”.

We have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (**OIA**).

The Serious Fraud Office (**SFO**) announced on 29 September 2020 that its investigation in relation to the New Zealand First Foundation has been completed and a charge of ‘Obtaining by Deception’ has been filed against two defendants. The charges were filed on 23 September. The defendants have interim name suppression and so cannot be named or identified at this time. We note that neither defendant is a Minister, sitting MP, or candidate in the upcoming election (or a member of their staff), or a current member of the New Zealand First party.

You may find the full media release on the SFO website: <https://www.sfo.govt.nz/sfo-files-charges-in-relation-to-nz-first-foundation-electoral-donations>.

You are entitled to make a complaint about our decision to the Office of the Ombudsman. They can be contacted at P O Box 10152, Wellington 6143 or at office@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Yours sincerely



Kylie Cooper
Deputy General Counsel