



18 November 2020

G S
fyi-request-14108-dce9db47@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe G S,

Your Official Information Act request, reference OIA2021-0275

Thank you for your email of 11 November 2020 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- *any advice provided to the Minister of Local Government from the 2017 election through to today on Māori wards in local government; and*
- *any internal policy development documents created since the 2017 election through to today on Māori wards in local government.*

We intend to provide you with documents containing advice provided to the Minister of Local Government about Māori wards in local government. For the second part of your request, we have interpreted your request for *internal policy development documents* as any departmental reports, papers/articles, and PowerPoints used as part of policy development on Māori wards in local government since the 2017 election through to 11 November 2020.

If you feel we have not interpreted your request correctly, please contact us urgently to discuss this further. You can contact Hilary Richards by email at Hilary.Richards@dia.govt.nz or by telephone on 04 494 0589.

The Act requires that we advise you of our decision no later than 20 working days after the day we received your request. Unfortunately, it will not be possible to meet that time limit and I am extending the time to make our decision by 8 working days to 21 December 2020.

I am making this extension subject to section 15A(1)(a) of the Act because of the need to search through a large quantity of information. The Department will endeavour to provide you with the decision prior to this date if possible.

You have the right, under section 28(3) of the Act, to make a complaint to an Ombudsman and seek an investigation and review of my decision to extend the deadline for a response. The contact address is: Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143. Alternatively, you can phone 0800 802 602 or email info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Nāku noa, nā

Anita Balakrishnan
Director Ministerial Advice, Monitoring, and Operations