



File No. DOIA 2122-1839

14 April 2022

A. W. Farmer

fyi-request-18952-f348ca96@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear A. W. Farmer

Thank you for your email of 22 March 2022 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Please provide any and all documents that the Free Speech Union lodged to the companies office as part of their registration as a trade union.

The incorporated society, FREE SPEECH UNION (NEW ZEALAND) INCORPORATED (the union), was registered as a union under the Employment Relations Act 2000 on 11 March 2021. An application by a society to register as a union must include:

1. The completed application form (Form RU1), signed by an officer of the union;
2. A statutory declaration, also signed by an officer of the union; and,
3. Copies of:
 - the union's certificate of incorporation under the Incorporated Societies Act 1908 (the ISA)
 - the union's rules as lodged with the Registrar of Incorporated Societies.

Attached is a copy of the completed application form, along with the signed statutory declaration for the FREE SPEECH UNION (NEW ZEALAND) INCORPORATED (50060249) to register as a union. Some information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.

In terms of section 9(1) of the Act, I am satisfied that, in the circumstances, the withholding of this information is not outweighed by other considerations that render it desirable to make the information available in the public interest.

Your request for copies of the union's certificate of incorporation under the ISA and the union's rules is refused under section 18(d) of the Act, as this information is publicly available. You can access this information by searching for the FREE SPEECH UNION (NEW ZEALAND) INCORPORATED on the register of incorporated societies and registered unions register at [Home | Incorporated Societies \(companiesoffice.govt.nz\)](https://www.companiesoffice.govt.nz) and [Registered unions | Companies Office](https://www.companiesoffice.govt.nz/Registered-unions-Companies-Office).

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of my decision to withhold information relating to this request, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Yours sincerely

Bolen Ng

National Manager, Business Registries

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