

16 August 2023

Correspondent

fyi-request-23468-38add585@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: OIA 106132

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request: LexisNexis

Thank you for request on 11 July 2023 under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet regarding access to LexisNexis' *Laws of New Zealand*. Your request was transferred under section 14 of the Act to the Ministry of Justice (the Ministry) for response.

The *Laws of New Zealand*, published by LexisNexis, is one of many privately published legal commentaries and databases that exist in relation to New Zealand legislation and case law. Access to these materials is at the discretion of the publisher, and the Government has no plans to extend public access to these materials. Government agencies may have their own individual arrangements providing them with access to legal commentaries and databases published by LexisNexis, such as the *Laws of New Zealand*. For example, the Ministry has a contract with LexisNexis which provides Ministry staff and judicial officers with access to the *Laws of New Zealand*.

The New Zealand Legislation website is the authoritative source for most New Zealand legislation and can be publicly accessed for free at: legislation.govt.nz/. The website is maintained by the Parliamentary Counsel Office (PCO), which is the New Zealand's law drafting office, and publisher of most New Zealand legislation. The website also contains information about how to access other legislation that is not published by PCO: legislation.govt.nz/howitworks.aspx#otherlegislation

Historical New Zealand legislation can be found in various databases hosted by the New Zealand Legal Information Institute that are available online at: [.nzlii.org/databases.html](https://nzlii.org/databases.html).

You will need to contact other government agencies directly to find out whether they have arrangements with LexisNexis that provide them access to the *Laws of New Zealand*, as the Ministry does not hold this information.

More information about the Ministry's contract with LexisNexis is also available at: fyi.org.nz/request/23223-data-sharing#incoming-88271

Most judgments of our higher courts (the High Court, Court of Appeal, and Supreme Court)

are publicly accessible for free through the Ministry of Justice's Judicial Decisions Online database at: <https://www.justice.govt.nz/courts/decisions/jdo>.

Some decisions of other courts and tribunals are also publicly accessible for free through the Ministry of Justice's decision finder at: <https://www.justice.govt.nz/courts/decisions/>, and on the websites of the courts and tribunals listed here: <https://www.justice.govt.nz/courts/decisions/how-to-find/>.

If you require any further information, please contact Media & Social Media Manager Joe Locke at media@justice.govt.nz.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website at: [justice.govt.nz/about/official-information-act-requests/oia-responses/](https://www.justice.govt.nz/about/official-information-act-requests/oia-responses/).

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act. The Office of the Ombudsman may be contacted by email to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phone on 0800 802 602.

Thank you for taking the time to write.

Nāku noa, nā



Anna Johnston
Acting General Manager, Civil & Constitutional