



8 March 2024

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dia.govt.nz

Dave Thomas via FYI

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Tēnā koe Dave

OIA request 23/24 0578 Request for Citizenship ceremony dates 2024

Thank you for your Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act (LGOIMA) request received by Christchurch City Council on 7 February 2024.

You requested in regards to Christchurch citizenship ceremonies –

- 1. The currently scheduled citizenship ceremony date and capacities of each ceremony*
- 2. The number of people currently on the citizenship ceremony waitlist*

As previously advised via email on 9 February 2024, your request was transferred to the Department of Internal Affairs (Department) in accordance with section 12 of the LGOIMA.

Section 12 of the LGOIMA provides that the information, or some of the information, to which the request relates is believed by the person dealing with the request to be held by, or more closely connected with the function of another local Authority, Minister, or organisation.

In response to your request I can provide you with the following information under the Official Information Act (Act).

Question one

The next public citizenship ceremony currently for Christchurch is scheduled for 29 April 2024. As of 21 February 2024, there are no other ceremonies scheduled and the Christchurch City Council will confirm further dates in due course.

I can advise that each ceremony is allocated on average between 300 to 320 people depending on the waitlist.

After New Zealand citizenship is approved, a ceremony will usually take place within 2 to 5 months. Candidates are usually advised 4 weeks before their ceremony. More information about ceremonies can be found at: www.govt.nz using the search 'citizenship ceremonies'.

Question two

There are currently 595 candidates on the Christchurch ceremony waitlist.

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public, the Department has decided to proactively release a copy of this response on its website. All requestor data, including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release. The released response will be made available here: <https://www.dia.govt.nz/Official-Information-Act-Requests-2>.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'J' and 'T' followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Julia Taylor
Manager Operational Policy and Official Correspondence
Service Delivery and Operations