

8 April 2024

Lional Jones

fyi-request-26054-c6fa1e5d@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Lional Jones

Official Information Act (OIA) request: Media advice

On 10 March 2024, you contacted Stats NZ requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *I seek briefings between Statistics NZ and their Minister regarding how to handle or manage media enquiries regarding the outcome of the last 2 census outcomes.*

Two documents in scope of your request have been identified:

- 6 March 2024 – Report of the Statutory Review of New Zealand’s 2023 Census (cover briefing)
- 6 March 2024 – Communications plan – Statutory review and interim rates

These documents are withheld under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act as they are under active consideration. The release of this information is likely to prejudice the ability of government to consider advice and the wider public interest of effective government would not be served.

For context, the Data and Statistics Act 2022 requires a review of the 2023 Census to be conducted and presented to the Minister of Statistics within 12 months of Census Day, so by 7 March 2024.

As noted on [our website](#), Stats NZ is currently preparing the review, *Report of the Statutory Review of New Zealand’s 2023 Census*, for publication on 23 April 2024. As is required under the Data and Statistics Act 2022, the review will be published on the Stats NZ website.

These two documents were not prepared specifically for the purpose you are requesting information about, but contain material relating to the topic.

Should you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact Stats NZ at: OfficeoftheGSCE@stats.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

It is Stats NZ's policy to proactively release its responses to official information requests where possible. This letter, with your personal details removed, will be published on the Stats NZ website. Publishing responses creates greater openness and transparency of government decision-making and helps better inform public understanding of the reasons for decisions.

Nāku noa, nā



Mike Webb
Senior Manager – Executive & Government Relations | Office of the Chief Executive
Stats NZ Tatauranga Aotearoa
stats.govt.nz