

From: [Census Communications - Shared Mailbox](#)
To: [Brendan Anstiss](#); [Kate Satterthwaite](#); s 9(2)(a) ; [Emmett Geoghegan](#); s 9(2)(a)
Cc: [Alisha Kennedy](#); [Rachael Millich](#)
Subject: FW: Questions: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection
Date: Wednesday, 29 May 2024 1:16:05 pm
Importance: High

Kia ora kōrua

We have a very urgent and serious media enquiry related to our contract with Whanau Ora for the 2023 Census, with a deadline of 4.30pm.

s 9(2)(a) /Emmett could you please look at the questions as some relate to our processes and legal requirements of collecting census responses.

Working on a response for this. Kate – assume you will want to be sign out of this response.

Thank you

s 9(2)(a)

- what is the established process for physical census forms handled by staff from outside organisations (such as maraes)? Is it illegal to copy and retain that confidential information? Who was checking these processes were adhered to?
- can inducements be offered for completion? Was Statistics NZ aware this was happening?
- did Statistics NZ know marae clients were being encouraged to complete the enrolment form at the same time?
- the allegation that census information was used for election campaigning purposes is very serious. Will Statistics NZ investigate?

From: Andrea Vance <xxxxxx.xxxxx@xxxxx.xx.xx>
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 11:28 AM
To: Media - Shared Mailbox <xxxxx@xxxxx.xxxx.xx>
Subject: Questions: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection

Good morning,

I have the following questions relating to Manurewa Marae. I appreciate this is a busy day for you, but these are serious allegations and we require a response by 4.30pm Thursday.

We have spoken to a number of former marae staff who have made the following allegations relating to the Census and the General Election.

They are:

- that inducements (\$100 supermarket vouchers, wellness and hygiene packs, and food parcels) were given to encourage people to complete the 2023 Census. Staff were also paid according to how many forms were completed, in some cases thousands of dollars.
- that alongside those inducements and in the process of the Census forms being completed, Māori were also encouraged to complete an enrolment form to switch from the Māori to General roll in the Tāmaki Makaurau electorate
- that confidential information collected during the Census - the forms - were photocopied and retained by the Marae, and also passed to the Waipareira Trust through Jotforms. It is alleged this information was later used in the election campaign run by Te Pati Maori's Takutai Tarsh Kemp, who was also the marae's CEO.

An employee of MSD, seconded to the marae, attempted to raise concerns about the retention of confidential census information with Statistics NZ, during the collection period, by ringing the 0800 number. Although she spoke to a staff member, no-one ever called back to seek further information. She also attempted to raise concerns through her MSD line manager.

She has now made a disclosure of serious wrongdoing through the protected disclosure legislation. A number of former staff have also now raised a complaint with police.

I am aware that some of these staff have raised employment grievances with the marae.

I am seeking Statistics response to the above, and also the following questions:

- what is the established process for physical census forms handled by staff from outside organisations (such as maraes)? Is it illegal to copy and retain that confidential information? Who was checking these processes were adhered to?
- can inducements be offered for completion? Was Statistics NZ aware this was happening?
- did Statistics NZ know marae clients were being encouraged to complete the enrolment form at the same time?
- the allegation that census information was used for election campaigning purposes is very serious. Will Statistics NZ investigate?

I look forward to your response.

ANDREA VANCE

National Affairs Editor, The Post/Sunday Star-Times.

E [✉](mailto:avancenz@postandstar.com) | s 9(2)(a)
T @avancenz

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From: [Alisha Kennedy](#)
To: [Census Communications - Shared Mailbox](#); [Brendan Anstiss](#); [Kate Satterthwaite](#); [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#); [Emmett Geoghegan](#); [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
Cc: [Rachael Milicich](#); [Mike Webb](#)
Subject: RE: Questions: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection
Date: Wednesday, 29 May 2024 1:21:48 pm

Kia ora,

Looks like the deadline is 4.30pm. It would be good to have a response drafted by COB today because there will be quite a sign off process. We may also need to update the Minister and PSC.

I'm with Kate – yes, she would like to sign out alongside Rachael.

Ngā mihi nui,

Alisha Kennedy (pronouns: she/her/hers)

Pouwhakahaere - Ngā Take Whakawaho | Senior Manager – External Affairs

Tai o te Tumu Whakahaere | Office of the Chief Executive

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From: s 9(2)(a)
To: [Kate Satterthwaite](#); [Mike Webb](#)
Subject: RE: Questions: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection
Date: Wednesday, 29 May 2024 1:26:00 pm

Thanks Kate – census team are convening

From: Kate Satterthwaite s 9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 1:20 PM
To: s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a); Mike Webb
s 9(2)(a)
Subject: FW: Questions: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection
Importance: High

FYI below – may have to give Min and PSC a heads up, depending on response

From: Census Communications - Shared Mailbox <xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxx.xxxx.xx>
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 1:16 PM
To: Brendan Anstiss <s 9(2)(a)>; Kate Satterthwaite <s 9(2)(a)>; s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a)>; Emmett Geoghegan <s 9(2)(a)>; s 9(2)(a) <s 9(2)(a)>
Cc: Alisha Kennedy <s 9(2)(a)>; Rachael Milicich <s 9(2)(a)>
Subject: FW: Questions: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection
Importance: High

Kia ora kōrua

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s 9(2)(a) /Emmett could you please look at the questions as some relate to our processes and legal requirements of collecting census responses.

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Thank you

s 9(2)(a)

- what is the established process for physical census forms handled by staff from outside organisations (such as maraes)? Is it illegal to copy and retain that confidential information? Who was checking these processes were adhered to?
- can inducements be offered for completion? Was Statistics NZ aware this was happening?
- did Statistics NZ know marae clients were being encouraged to complete the enrolment form at the same time?
- the allegation that census information was used for election campaigning

From: s 9(2)(a)
To: [Kate Satterthwaite](#)
Cc: [Alisha Kennedy](#); [Brendan Anstiss](#); s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Questions: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection
Date: Wednesday, 29 May 2024 1:43:39 pm

Kia ora Kate (and s 9(2)(a)),

s 9(2)(a) and I have given Brendan the heads up and he may be in touch.

As per your conversation with s 9(2)(a), our Whanau Ora relationship holder is s 9(2)(a) and she needs to be brought into this. I have given her the heads up but have not spoken to her.

I suggest you bring her into this conversation.

s 9(2)(a)

From: Alisha Kennedy <s 9(2)(a)>
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 1:22 PM
To: Census Communications - Shared Mailbox <xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxx.xxxx.nz>; Brendan Anstiss s 9(2)(a); Kate Satterthwaite s 9(2)(a); s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a); Emmett Geoghegan s 9(2)(a); s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a)
Cc: Rachael Milich s 9(2)(a); Mike Webb s 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Questions: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection

Kia ora,

Looks like the deadline is 4.30pm. It would be good to have a response drafted by COB today because there will be quite a sign off process. We may also need to update the Minister and PSC.

I'm with Kate – yes, she would like to sign out alongside Rachael.

Ngā mihi nui,

Alisha Kennedy (pronouns: she/her/hers)

Pouwhakahaere - Ngā Take Whakawaho | Senior Manager – External Affairs

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From: [Ruth Laugesen](#)
To: [Alisha Kennedy](#); [Media \(MSD\)](#)
Cc: [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#); [Media - Shared Mailbox](#)
Subject: RE: Questions: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection
Date: Wednesday, 29 May 2024 3:52:57 pm

IN-CONFIDENCE

hi there Alisha; thanks we have received a related query.
I don't think it's correct to say an employee of MSD and her line manager are implicated.
The allegations in relation to the census seem to relate to marae staff?
will give you a ring.

Ruth Laugesen - Manager, Media and Social Media

[s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#) | [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#) | [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
Ministry of Social Development, Te Manatū Whakahiato Ora
Aurora Centre, 56-66 The Terrace, PO Box 1556, Wellington 6140

From: Alisha Kennedy [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 3:45 PM
To: Media (MSD) <xxxxx@xxx.xxx.xx>
Cc: [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#) | [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#); Media - Shared Mailbox
<xxxxx@xxxxx.xxx.xx>
Subject: FW: Questions: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection
Importance: High

Kia ora Ruth,

We have received the following media enquiry from Andrea Vance which makes some very serious allegations. An employee of MSD and her line manager are also implicated.

Wondering if you have had anything of a similar nature? Perhaps you could give me a call to discuss – [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)

Ngā mihi nui,

Alisha Kennedy (pronouns: she/her/hers)
Pouwhakahaere - Ngā Take Whakawaho | Senior Manager – External Affairs
Tai o te Tumu Whakahaere | Office of the Chief Executive
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media team may refuse a request and what to do if you are unhappy with our response.

From: Andrea Vance <xxxxxx.xxxxx@xxxxx.xx.xx>

Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 11:28 AM

To: Media - Shared Mailbox <xxxxx@xxxxx.xxxx.xx>

Subject: Questions: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection

Good morning,

I have the following questions relating to Manurewa Marae. I appreciate this is a busy day for you, but these are serious allegations and we require a response by 4.30pm Thursday.

We have spoken to a number of former marae staff who have made the following allegations relating to the Census and the General Election.

They are:

- that inducements (\$100 supermarket vouchers, wellness and hygiene packs, and food parcels) were given to encourage people to complete the 2023 Census. Staff were also paid according to how many forms were completed, in some cases thousands of dollars.
- that alongside those inducements and in the process of the Census forms being completed, Māori were also encouraged to complete an enrolment form to switch from the Māori to General roll in the Tāmaki Makaurau electorate
- that confidential information collected during the Census - the forms - were photocopied and retained by the Marae, and also passed to the Waipareira Trust through Jotforms. It is alleged this information was later used in the election campaign run by Te Pati Maori's Takutai Tarsh Kemp, who was also the marae's CEO.

An employee of MSD, seconded to the marae, attempted to raise concerns about the retention of confidential census information with Statistics NZ, during the collection period, by ringing the 0800 number. Although she spoke to a staff member, no-one ever called back to seek further information. She also attempted to raise concerns through her MSD line manager.

She has now made a disclosure of serious wrongdoing through the protected disclosure legislation. A number of former staff have also now raised a complaint with police.

I am aware that some of these staff have raised employment grievances with the marae.

I am seeking Statistics response to the above, and also the following questions:

- what is the established process for physical census forms handled by staff from outside organisations (such as maraes)? Is it illegal to copy and retain that confidential information? Who was checking these processes were adhered to?
- can inducements be offered for completion? Was Statistics NZ aware this was happening?

- did Statistics NZ know marae clients were being encouraged to complete the enrolment form at the same time?
- the allegation that census information was used for election campaigning purposes is very serious. Will Statistics NZ investigate?

I look forward to your response.

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ANDREA VANCE

National Affairs Editor, The Post/Sunday Star-Times.

E avance@postandstar.com | s 9(2)(a)
T @avancenz

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From: [Alisha Kennedy](#)
To: [Brendan Anstiss](#); [Kate Satterthwaite](#); [Rachael Milicich](#); [Anna McDowell](#); s 9(2)(a)
Cc: [Emmett Geoghegan](#); s 9(2)(a); [Census Communications - Shared Mailbox](#); s 9(2)(a) [Tia Warbrick](#); [Media - Shared Mailbox](#); s 9(2)(a)
Subject: MEDIA: Draft statement for approval re: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection
Date: Wednesday, 29 May 2024 4:52:01 pm

Kia ora,

Please see below the DRAFT response for Andrea Vance. We're recommending that we go back to Andrea tomorrow with a short statement while we investigate this further.

Stats NZ partnered with Whānau Ora Commissioning Agency to lift low 2023 Census response rates from Māori in Auckland. The collection operations were led by Te Pae Herenga o Tāmaki to non-responding and partial responding Māori households. As part of this, Whanau Ora worked with Manurewa Marae. Questions about how staff were paid in this instance should be directed to Whanau Ora.

Information collected via census forms or any Stats NZ survey is protected by the Data and Statistics Act and the Privacy Act.

The allegation that census forms were copied and retained, that the information was used for other purposes, and that reports of this nature were not followed up are very serious. We will investigate.

[@Anna](#) – are you comfortable sharing the above statement with Whanau Ora?

I will share with the MSD media team.

s 9(2)(a) - can you please share any information you gather with s 9(2)(a) who is currently coordinating the investigation?

Ngā mihi nui,

Alisha Kennedy (pronouns: she/her/hers)

Pouwhakahaere - Ngā Take Whakawaho | Senior Manager – External Affairs

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From: Census Communications - Shared Mailbox <censuscommunications@stats.govt.nz>

From: [Kate Satterthwaite](#)
To: s 9(2)(a) ; s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a)
Cc: [Emmett Geoghegan](#)
Subject: RE: Questions: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection - 0800 number call
Date: Wednesday, 29 May 2024 6:09:01 pm

Thanks s 9(2)(a) appreciate the update

From: s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 5:08 PM
To: s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a) ; s 9(2)(a)
s 9(2)(a)
Cc: Kate Satterthwaite s 9(2)(a) ; Emmett Geoghegan
s 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Questions: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection - 0800 number call

Kia ora tima,

Update on the 0800 number and complaint tracking. Not great news:

- Our SNZ 0508's business process for getting Census calls at the time were just to record the details of the person and send them straight on to Census. There is no detail in their system to search on that would be of use
- The complaint notes it was through the 0800 number which we assume is the Census one. This was an external provider and our contact here has gone home for the day. I'll follow up with her tomorrow. Regardless, our info centre noted that this data will mostlikely be lost to us, they did not have any access.

Will update you in the morning.

s 9(2)(a)

From: s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 4:44 PM
To: s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a) ; s 9(2)(a)
s 9(2)(a)
Cc: Kate Satterthwaite s 9(2)(a) ; Emmett Geoghegan
s 9(2)(a)
Subject: Questions: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection

Hiya s 9(2)(a)

Kate has asked that once you've tracked down any info on the complaint side of this to send it through to me please. I am collating and working through the legal & privacy docs so will pull it together with all of that.

Kia ora

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

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From: [Kate Satterthwaite](#)
To: [Brendan Anstiss](#)
Cc: [Anna McDowell](#); [Tia Warbrick](#); s 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: For Approval - MEDIA: Draft statement for approval re: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection
Date: Wednesday, 29 May 2024 6:07:04 pm

Fabulous, thank you. Hope today went well!

From: Brendan Anstiss s 9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 6:01 PM
To: Kate Satterthwaite s 9(2)(a)
Cc: Anna McDowell s 9(2)(a); Tia Warbrick
s 9(2)(a); s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: For Approval - MEDIA: Draft statement for approval re: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection

Yes sure. I'll make contact with s 9(2)(a), and close loop back to this group.

From: Kate Satterthwaite s 9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 5:59 PM
To: Brendan Anstiss s 9(2)(a)
Cc: Anna McDowell s 9(2)(a); Tia Warbrick
s 9(2)(a); s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a)
Subject: For Approval - MEDIA: Draft statement for approval re: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection

Hi Brendan, with Anna on leave until Wednesday, are you please able to reach out to Whanau Ora tomorrow and let them know of the request and our response, for their visibility only.

Reach out as needed, thanks Kate

From: Kate Satterthwaite
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 5:19 PM
To: Alisha Kennedy s 9(2)(a); Brendan Anstiss
s 9(2)(a); Rachael Milicich s 9(2)(a); Anna
McDowell s 9(2)(a); s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a)
Cc: Emmett Geoghegan s 9(2)(a); s 9(2)(a)
s 9(2)(a); Census Communications - Shared Mailbox
<xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxx.xxxx.xx>; s 9(2)(a)
s 9(2)(a); Tia Warbrick s 9(2)(a); Media - Shared
Mailbox <xxxxx@xxxxx.xxxx.xx>; s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a)
Subject: For Approval - MEDIA: Draft statement for approval re: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection

Thanks Alisha – appreciate you pulling this together – and thank you for your time today s 9(2)(a) and Legal.

I'm comfortable with the statement (below) – [@Brendan Anstiss](#) and [@Rachael Milicich](#) please review and let us know. It won't be attributed to a spokesperson.

I'll update the Acting CE and provide a 'no surprises' heads up to the Minister's office and PSC once the statement is approved tomorrow.

[@Anna](#) – we'll aim to send the statement after you've engaged with Whanau Ora, so please confirm and happy to discuss.

Ideally, we'll send the statement around midday tomorrow. Ahead of the deadline.

Reach out as needed, Kate

p.s. Great work on the 2023 Census release today, sorry for this poor timing!

From: [Rachael Milicich](#)
To: [Kate Satterthwaite](#); [Alisha Kennedy](#); [Brendan Anstiss](#); [Anna McDowell](#); s 9(2)(a)
Cc: [Emmett Geoghegan](#); s 9(2)(a); [Census Communications - Shared Mailbox](#); [Matt Phimmavanh](#); [Tia Warbrick](#); [Media - Shared Mailbox](#); s 9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: For Approval - MEDIA: Draft statement for approval re: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection
Date: Wednesday, 29 May 2024 5:59:54 pm

I don't have anything to add. Thanks for everyone's work on this.

From: Kate Satterthwaite s 9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 5:18:43 PM
To: Alisha Kennedy s 9(2)(a); Brendan Anstiss
s 9(2)(a); Rachael Milicich s 9(2)(a); Anna
McDowell s 9(2)(a); s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a)
Cc: Emmett Geoghegan s 9(2)(a); s 9(2)(a)
s 9(2)(a); Census Communications - Shared Mailbox
<censuscommunications@stats.govt.nz>; s 9(2)(a)
s 9(2)(a); Tia Warbrick s 9(2)(a); Media - Shared
Mailbox <Media@stats.govt.nz>; s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a)
Subject: For Approval - MEDIA: Draft statement for approval re: serious allegations relating to
Manurewa Marae/ census collection

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Reach out as needed, Kate

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From: [Brendan Anstiss](#)
To: [Kate Satterthwaite](#); [Rachael Milicich](#)
Cc: [Emmett Geoghegan](#); [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#); [Census Communications - Shared Mailbox](#); [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#); [Tia Warbrick](#); [Media - Shared Mailbox](#); [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#); [Anna McDowell](#); [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#); [Alisha Kennedy](#)
Subject: RE: Updated statement - MEDIA: Draft statement for approval re: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection
Date: Thursday, 30 May 2024 11:29:20 am

Kia ora, I've left phone messages for both [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#) and [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#) asking them to call me back. I will let you know once I have talked to one of them – or if I haven't been able to by mid-afternoon.

Kate and [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#) we'll pull together a timeline that attaches the key documents as well and send this through to you.

Thanks. B

From: Kate Satterthwaite [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2024 9:59 AM
To: Brendan Anstiss [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#); Rachael Milicich [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
Cc: Emmett Geoghegan [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#); [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#); [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#); Census Communications - Shared Mailbox <censuscommunications@stats.govt.nz>; [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#); [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#); Tia Warbrick [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#); Media - Shared Mailbox <Media@stats.govt.nz>; [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#) [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#); Anna McDowell [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#); [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#) [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#); Alisha Kennedy [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
Subject: Updated statement - MEDIA: Draft statement for approval re: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection

Morena, updated statement (see last sentence) to go to Ms Vance once we've updated Whanau Ora - [@Brendan](#) please let Alisha and I know once this is done. Ideally we would like to send statement this afternoon and prior to 4.30pm deadline. Cheers, Kate

Stats NZ partnered with Whānau Ora Commissioning Agency to lift low 2023 Census response rates from Māori in Auckland. The collection operations with non-responding and partial responding Māori households were led by Te Pae Herenga o Tāmaki. As part of this, Whānau Ora worked with Manurewa Marae; questions about the survey were paid in this instance should be directed to Whānau Ora.

Information collected via census forms or any Stats NZ survey is protected by the Data and Statistics Act 2022 and the Privacy Act 2020.

The allegations that census forms were copied and retained, that the information was used for other purposes, and that reports of this nature were not followed up are very serious. We will investigate. We encourage anyone with concerns of this nature to contact OfficeoftheGSCFE@stats.govt.nz, or alternatively the Police or the Office of the Privacy Commissioner.

From: Brendan Anstiss

Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2024 11:59 AM

To: Kate Satterthwaite s 9(2)(a); Alisha Kennedy

s 9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: Updated statement - MEDIA: Draft statement for approval re: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection

Kia ora kōrua, as discussed, I contacted s 9(2)(a) by phone and advised him of the media inquiry and that how we would be responding. Te Whānau o Waipareira / WOCA had also received similar media inquiry (a number of times via different entities) and would be refuting the allegations.

I let s 9(2)(a) know we would be back in contact if required in due course. s 9(2)(a) will also let s 9(2)(a), and his Chief Executive, John Tamihere, know.

Cheers, B

From: Brendan Anstiss

Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2024 11:29 AM

To: Kate Satterthwaite s 9(2)(a); Rachael Milichich

s 9(2)(a)

Cc: Emmett Geoghegan s 9(2)(a); s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a); Census Communications - Shared Mailbox

<xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxx.xxxx.xx>; s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a); Tia Warbrick s 9(2)(a); Media - Shared

Mailbox <xxxxx@xxxxx.xxxx.xx>; s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a); Anna McDowell

s 9(2)(a); s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a); Alisha Kennedy

s 9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: Updated statement - MEDIA: Draft statement for approval re: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection

Kia ora, I've left phone messages for both s 9(2)(a) and s 9(2)(a) asking them to call me back. I will let you know once I have talked to one of them – or if I haven't been able to by mid-afternoon.

Kate and s 9(2)(a) we'll pull together a timeline that attaches the key documents as well and send this through to you.

Thanks. B

From: [Media - Shared Mailbox](#)
To: [xxxxxx.xxxxx@xxxxx.xx.xx](#); [Media - Shared Mailbox](#)
Subject: RE: Questions: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection
Date: Thursday, 30 May 2024 1:01:00 pm

Kia ora Andrea,

Please see below a statement from Stats NZ.

.....

Stats NZ partnered with Whānau Ora Commissioning Agency to lift low 2023 Census response rates from Māori in Auckland. The collection operations with non-responding and partial responding Māori households were led by Te Pae Herenga o Tāmaki. As part of this, Whānau Ora worked with Manurewa Marae. Questions about how staff were paid in this instance should be directed to Whānau Ora.

Information collected via census forms or any Stats NZ survey is protected by the Data and Statistics Act 2022 and the Privacy Act 2020.

The allegations that census forms were copied and retained, that the information was used for other purposes, and that reports of this nature were not followed up are very serious. We are investigating. We encourage anyone with concerns of this nature to contact [xxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxx.xxxx.xx](#), or alternatively the Police or the Office of the Privacy Commissioner.

[Ends]

Ngā mihi nui,

Alisha Kennedy (pronouns: she/her/hers)
Pouwhakahaere - Ngā Take Whakawaho | Senior Manager – External Affairs
Tai o te Tumu Whakahaere | Office of the Chief Executive
Tatauranga Aotearoa | Stats NZ | stats.govt.nz

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From: Andrea Vance <xxxxxx.xxxxx@xxxxx.xx.xx>
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 11:28 AM
To: Media - Shared Mailbox <xxxxxx@xxxxx.xxxx.xx>
Subject: Questions: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection

Good morning,

From: [Kate Satterthwaite](#)
To: [Tele'a Andrews](#) s 9(2)(a) ; s 9(2)(a)
Subject: Fyi - Questions: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection
Date: Thursday, 30 May 2024 1:45:00 pm

FYI below – query and our response. Our CLA has spoken to your CLA Tele'a; we've also linked in with Ruth (MSD media) and the Electoral Commission (they have both confirmed the receipt of media queries).

We've spoken to Whanau Ora and they have received a query and will respond.

Just sharing for visibility, I think, at this stage; but feel free to update me if you think otherwise

Thanks Kate

Kate Satterthwaite
Deputy Chief Executive & Chief of Staff
Office of the Chief Executive
Stats NZ | Tauranga Aotearoa | stats.govt.nz | s 9(2)(a)

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From: Media - Shared Mailbox <xxxxx@xxxxx.xxx.xx>
Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2024 1:01 PM
To: xxxxxx.xxxxx@xxxxx.xx.xx; Media - Shared Mailbox <xxxxx@xxxxx.xxx.xx>
Subject: RE: Questions: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection

Kia ora Andrea,

Please see below a statement from Stats NZ.

Stats NZ partnered with Whānau Ora Commissioning Agency to lift low 2023 Census response rates from Māori in Auckland. The collection operations with non-responding and partial responding Māori households were led by Te Pae Herenga o Tāmaki. As part of this, Whānau Ora worked with Manurewa Marae. Questions about how staff were paid in this instance should be directed to Whānau Ora.

Information collected via census forms or any Stats NZ survey is protected by the Data and Statistics Act 2022 and the Privacy Act 2020.

The allegations that census forms were copied and retained, that the information was used for other purposes, and that reports of this nature were not followed up are very serious. We are investigating. We encourage anyone with concerns of this nature to contact xxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxx.xxx.xx, or alternatively the Police or the Office of the Privacy Commissioner.

[Ends]

Ngā mihi nui,

Alisha Kennedy (pronouns: she/her/hers)

Pouwhakahaere - Ngā Take Whakawaho | Senior Manager – External Affairs

Tai o te Tumu Whakahaere | Office of the Chief Executive

Tatauranga Aotearoa | Stats NZ | stats.govt.nz

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From: Emmett Geoghegan
To: s 9(2)(a); s 9(2)(a)
Subject: Fw: Updated statement - MEDIA: Draft statement for approval re: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection
Date: Monday, 22 July 2024 3:09:26 pm

Nga mihi

Emmett

Emmett Geoghegan (pronouns: he/him/his)

Chief Legal Advisor | Pou Whakahaere a Ture

Stats NZ | Tauranga Aotearoa | stats.govt.nz | s 9(2)(a)

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From: s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a)
Sent: Thursday, 30 May 2024 12:57 pm
To: Kate Satterthwaite s 9(2)(a)
Cc: Emmett Geoghegan s 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Updated statement - MEDIA: Draft statement for approval re: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection

Thanks Kate

From: Kate Satterthwaite s 9(2)(a)
Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2024 11:55 AM
To: s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a)
Subject: FW: Updated statement - MEDIA: Draft statement for approval re: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection

Hi s 9(2)(a) – Brendan’s spoken to the Trust – he indicated we’ll likely be back in touch. They also have received related media, which they’re front.

Brendan’s timeline will come to you to assist the investigation -thank you!

From: s 9(2)(a)
To: s 9(2)(a); Kate Satterthwaite; s 9(2)(a); s 9(2)(a)
Cc: Emmett Geoghegan; Brendan Anstiss
Subject: RE: Questions: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection - 0800 number call
Date: Thursday, 30 May 2024 3:01:31 pm
Attachments: [2023 Census operation timeline.docx](#)

Kia oar,

Here is the timeline with links to related documents to support the media query.

[2023 Census operation timeline.docx](#)

I've attached a copy in case you can't access the documents as it is in the restricted Census PLT MS Teams folder.

Cheers

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

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Timeline of 2023 Census Collection Operation with respect to Whānau Ora and Manurewa Marae

8 February 2023

Field Operation Collaboration Agreement between Stats NZ and Manurewa Marae signed. Value \$35k. Covered the period 8 March to 3 April to support NRFU by providing Manurewa Marae navigators as Walkalong Workers to Stats NZ census collectors.

[2023 Census - Field Operation Collaboration Agreement - Manurewa Marae 2023 Census signed.pdf - \(a\) The File plan \(sharepoint.com\)](#)

24 March 2023

Level 3 Incident raised: Low estimated return rates for Māori. This was the origin of the partnership with Whānau Ora. The incident was opened on 24 March and closed on 30 June.

[18 - Low estimated return rates for Maori - CLOSED](#)

29 April 2023

Contract for Services with Whānau Ora signed. Covered the period 1 May to 15 July. Purpose: Value \$5M. To help lift response rates for Māori in Auckland. Manurewa Marae was included in a list of partner members who will deliver the services.

[Form 1 of GMC for Whānau Ora Commissioning Agency as at 28 April \(SIGNED\).pdf](#)

[FINAL Information Sharing Agreement from Stats NZ to WOCA .pdf](#)

[WOCA and 2023 Census Update_Final Report.pptx](#)

Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
	Stats NZ Collection Operation (14 Feb – 31 May)				
	Manurewa Marae Field Collaboration (8 Mar – 3 Apr)				
			Whānau Ora contract (1 May – 15 Jul)		

From: s 9(2)(a)
To: s 6(c); s 9(2)(a) Kate Satterthwaite; s 9(2)(a)
Cc: Emmett Geoghegan; Brendan Anstiss
Subject: RE: Questions: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection - 0800 number call
Date: Thursday, 30 May 2024 3:58:16 pm

Thanks s 9(2)(a) that's very useful

From: s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a)
Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2024 3:01 PM
To: s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a); Kate Satterthwaite
s 9(2)(a); s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a); s 9(2)(a)
s 9(2)(a)
Cc: Emmett Geoghegan s 9(2)(a); Brendan Anstiss
s 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Questions: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection - 0800 number call

Kia oar,

Here is the timeline with links to related documents to support the media query.

[2023 Census operation timeline.docx](#)

I've attached a copy in case you can't access the documents as it is in the restricted Census PLT MS Teams folder.

Cheers

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

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From: [Emmett Geoghegan](#)
To: s 9(2)(a) ; s 9(2)(a)
Subject: Fw: Questions: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection - 0800 number call
Date: Monday, 22 July 2024 3:09:20 pm
Attachments: [2023 Census operation timeline.docx](#)

Nga mihi

Emmett

Emmett Geoghegan (pronouns: he/him/his)

Chief Legal Advisor | Pou Whakahaere a Ture

Stats NZ | Tauranga Aotearoa | stats.govt.nz | s 9(2)(a)

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From: s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a)

Sent: Thursday, 30 May 2024 3:01 pm

To: s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a) ; Kate Satterthwaite

s 9(2)(a) ; s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a) ; s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

Cc: Emmett Geoghegan s 9(2)(a) ; Brendan Anstiss

s 9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: Questions: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection - 0800 number call

Kia oar,

Here is the timeline with links to related documents to support the media query.

[2023 Census operation timeline.docx](#)

I've attached a copy in case you can't access the documents as it is in the restricted Census PLT MS Teams folder.

Cheers

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

From: Emmett Geoghegan
To: s 9(2)(a)
Cc: s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a)
Subject: s 9(2)(h)
Date: Monday, 22 July 2024 3:09:19 pm
Importance: High

Hi s 9(2)(a)

We have a complaint alleging census forms were copied and info misused (feed into 2 orgs lists of contacts). It's plausible but essentially anonymous with poor detail.

They are 2nd or 3rd hand allegations via a reporter allegedly from a MSD employee and perhaps others (it's not clear which info relates to which concerns or who holds the concerns).

MSD has confirmed they have a similar media query.

The Privacy and Legal team are assessing the paperwork side of things, and we will FYI the OPC.

Kate S and Rachael M are all over a holding response to the media (Alisha Kennedy on that).

Nga mihi

Emmett

Emmett Geoghegan (pronouns: he/him/his)

Chief Legal Advisor | Pou Whakahaere a Ture

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From: Kate Satterthwaite s 9(2)(a)

Sent: Wednesday, 29 May 2024 8:17 pm

To: Emmett Geoghegan s 9(2)(a); s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a); Alisha Kennedy s 9(2)(a)

Cc: s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a)

Subject: s 9(2)(h)

Excellent thanks Emmett - yes to looping in security. Would that be s 9(2)(a)

From: Emmett Geoghegan s 9(2)(a)

Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 7:54:05 PM

To: Kate Satterthwaite s 9(2)(a); s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a); Alisha Kennedy s 9(2)(a)

Cc: s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a)

Subject: s 9(2)(h)

s 9(2)(h)

- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

- s 9(2)(h) [Redacted]
- [Redacted]

Nga mihi

Emmett

Emmett Geoghegan (pronouns: he/him/his)

Chief Legal Advisor | Pou Whakahaere a Ture

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From: Kate Satterthwaite s 9(2)(a)

Sent: Wednesday, 29 May 2024 1:44 pm

To: Emmett Geoghegan s 9(2)(a)

Cc: s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a)

Subject: s 9(2)(h)

s 9(2)(h)

From: Census Communications - Shared Mailbox <xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxx.xxxx.xx>

Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 1:16 PM

To: Brendan Anstiss s 9(2)(a); Kate Satterthwaite

s 9(2)(a); s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a);

Emmett Geoghegan s 9(2)(a); s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

Cc: Alisha Kennedy s 9(2)(a); Rachael Milicich

From: [Kate Satterthwaite](#)
To: s 9(2)(a)
Cc: [Office of the GS&CE-Internal Shared Mail](#)
Subject: No surprises - 2023 Census collections partnership with Whānau Ora (and Manurewa Marae)
Date: Thursday, 30 May 2024 6:52:44 pm
Importance: High

Hi s 9(2)(a), for the awareness of your Minister and middle office, under no surprises.

Yesterday Stats NZ received a query from journalist Andrea Vance relating to the 2023 Census and the General Election – this query is pasted below. A similar query was also received by the Ministry of Social Development, the Electoral Commission, and the Whānau Ora Commissioning agency.

Today Stats NZ provided its response back to Ms Vance – also pasted below.

Ms Vance's query includes allegations that Stats NZ are now actively investigating.

The allegations concern the collection, retention and use of census information collected at Manurewa Marae as part of our 2023 Census collections partnership with the Whānau Ora Commissioning agency.

We have made initial contact with the Whānau Ora Commissioning agency, and I can confirm that we will keep you updated as appropriate, as we investigate these allegations.

If the Minister would like to discuss this, I am available on s 9(2)(a). Alternatively, Mark will be briefed to update the Minister during his scheduled phone call on Tuesday, 4 June 11:30am – 12:00noon.

Kind regards, Kate

Stats NZ Statement:

Stats NZ partnered with Whānau Ora Commissioning Agency to lift low 2023 Census response rates from Māori in Auckland. The collection operations with non-responding and partial responding Māori households were led by Te Pae Herenga o Tāmaki. As part of this, Whānau Ora worked with Manurewa Marae. Questions about how staff were paid in this instance should be directed to Whānau Ora.

Information collected via census forms or any Stats NZ survey is protected by the Data and Statistics Act 2022 and the Privacy Act 2020.

The allegations that census forms were copied and retained, that the information was used for other purposes, and that reports of this nature were not followed up are very serious. We are investigating. We encourage anyone with concerns of this nature to contact @....., or alternatively the Police or the Office of the Privacy Commissioner.

[Ends]

Media query from Andrea Vance:

Good morning,

I have the following questions relating to Manurewa Marae. I appreciate this is a busy day for you, but these are serious allegations and we require a response by 4.30pm Thursday.

We have spoken to a number of former marae staff who have made the following allegations relating to the Census and the General Election.

They are:

- that inducements (\$100 supermarket vouchers, wellness and hygiene packs, and food parcels) were given to encourage people to complete the 2023 Census. Staff were also paid according to how many forms were completed, in some cases thousands of dollars.
- that alongside those inducements and in the process of the Census forms being completed, Māori were also encouraged to complete an enrolment form to switch from the Māori to General roll in the Tāmaki Makaurau electorate
- that confidential information collected during the Census - the forms - were photocopied and retained by the Marae, and also passed to the Waipareira Trust through Jotforms. It is alleged this information was later used in the election campaign run by Te Pati Maori's Takutai Tarsh Kemp, who was also the marae's CEO.

An employee of MSD, seconded to the marae, attempted to raise concerns about the retention of confidential census information with Statistics NZ, during the collection period, by ringing the 0800 number. Although she spoke to a staff member, no-one ever called back to seek further information. She also attempted to raise concerns through her MSD line manager.

She has now made a disclosure of serious wrongdoing through the protected disclosure legislation. A number of former staff have also now raised a complaint with police.

I am aware that some of these staff have raised employment grievances with the marae.

I am seeking Statistics response to the above, and also the following questions:

- what is the established process for physical census forms handled by staff from outside organisations (such as maraes)? Is it illegal to copy and retain that confidential information? Who was checking these processes were adhered to?

- can inducements be offered for completion? Was Statistics NZ aware this was happening?
- did Statistics NZ know marae clients were being encouraged to complete the enrolment form at the same time?
- the allegation that census information was used for election campaigning purposes is very serious. Will Statistics NZ investigate?

I look forward to your response.

--

ANDREA VANCE

National Affairs Editor, The Post/Sunday Star-Times.

E xxx@xxx | s 9(2)(a)

T @avancenz

Kate Satterthwaite

Deputy Chief Executive & Chief of Staff

Office of the Chief Executive

Stats NZ | Tauranga Aotearoa | stats.govt.nz | s 9(2)(a)

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From: [Ruth Laugesen](#)
To: [Alisha Kennedy](#)
Cc: [Media - Shared Mailbox](#)
Subject: Re: Questions: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection
Date: Thursday, 30 May 2024 8:17:54 pm

IN-CONFIDENCE

Hi there Alisha - due to the subject matter relating to an alleged protected disclosure and the very high degree of confidentiality required in the event there was such a disclosure, we would prefer not to share our response.

However I can say that we haven't provided the reporter with any comment that relates to Stats NZ or the census; or that engages with the substance of the claims. We've pointed to general processes that apply in the event any protected disclosures were received by MSD. Happy to discuss if you would like to chat tomorrow!

Sorry I can't be more helpful on this occasion.

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From: Alisha Kennedy s 9(2)(a)
Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2024 6:14:54 PM
To: Ruth Laugesen s 9(2)(a)
Cc: Media - Shared Mailbox <xxxxx@xxxxx.xxxx.xx>
Subject: FW: Questions: serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae/ census collection

Kia ora Ruth,

FYI. It would be great if you could share your response with us too.

EC has also received a similar enquiry.

Ngā mihi nui,

Alisha Kennedy (pronouns: she/her/hers)

Pouwhakahaere - Ngā Take Whakawaho | Senior Manager – External Affairs

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From: Media - Shared Mailbox <xxxxx@xxxxx.xxxx.xx>
Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2024 1:01 PM

From: s 9(2)(a)
To: s 9(2)(a); s 9(2)(a); Brendan Anstiss; s 9(2)(a)
Cc: Alisha Kennedy; s 9(2)(a); Emmett Geoghegan
Subject: RE: Official Information Act Request
Date: Friday, 31 May 2024 9:00:00 am

Mōrena koutou

A heads up about an OIA we received on the topic of Manurewa Marae and WOCA yesterday afternoon.

As far as we know the info has not been reported via media yet.

Could you please start to consider the information we will require to answer this request.

Ngā mihi

s 9(2)(a)

From: s 9(2)(a)
Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2024 5:04 PM
To: Office of the GS&CE-External <xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxx.xxx.xx >
Subject: Official Information Act Request

Dear Stats NZ,

I am writing to request information under the Official Information Act 1982. Please provide the following details:

1. **Funding Information:**

- Details of any funding provided to Manurewa Marae and associated entities for undertaking work related to Census 2023.
- Details of any funding provided to Waipareira Trust and associated entities for undertaking work related to Census 2023.

2. **Correspondence:**

- Copies of all correspondence relating to Manurewa Marae concerning Census 2023.
- Copies of all correspondence relating to Waipareira Trust concerning Census 2023.

3. **Investigation into Data Privacy Breach:**

- Confirmation of whether any investigation has been undertaken by Stats NZ into a potential data privacy breach by census collectors associated with Manurewa Marae and Waipareira Trust. This inquiry is in light of reports suggesting that Te Pati Maori may have taken a copy of Maori census data collected for the purposes of their election campaign.
- If any investigation has been conducted, please provide details and findings of the investigation.

4. **Conflict of Interest Management:**

- Information on the measures and procedures Stats NZ implemented to manage any potential conflicts of interest, given that Manurewa Marae served as the campaign headquarters for the Te Pati Maori electoral candidate, who was also the CEO of the marae.
- Information on the measures and procedures Stats NZ implemented to manage any potential conflicts of interest, given that Waipareira Trust served as the headquarters for the Te Pati Maori President.

Thank you for your assistance. I look forward to your response within the statutory timeframe.

Best regards,

s 9(2)(a)

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From: s 9(2)(a)
To: s 9(2)(a)
Cc: [Office of the GS&CE-Internal Shared Mail](#)
Subject: Under no surprises: Official Information Act Request received
Date: Friday, 31 May 2024 9:44:13 am

Mōrena s 9(2)(a)

A heads up about an OIA we received on the topic of Manurewa Marae and Whānau Ora Commissioning Agency yesterday afternoon.

We are currently assessing the request.

As far as we know the info has not been reported via media yet.

Ngā mihi

s 9(2)(a)

From: s 9(2)(a)
Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2024 5:04 PM
To: Office of the GS&CE-External <xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxx.xxx.xx>
Subject: Official Information Act Request

Dear Stats NZ,

I am writing to request information under the Official Information Act 1982. Please provide the following details:

1. **Funding Information:**

- Details of any funding provided to Manurewa Marae and associated entities for undertaking work related to Census 2023.
- Details of any funding provided to Waipareira Trust and associated entities for undertaking work related to Census 2023.

2. **Correspondence:**

- Copies of all correspondence relating to Manurewa Marae concerning Census 2023.
- Copies of all correspondence relating to Waipareira Trust concerning Census 2023.

3. **Investigation into Data Privacy Breach:**

- Confirmation of whether any investigation has been undertaken by Stats NZ into a potential data privacy breach by census collectors associated with Manurewa Marae and Waipareira Trust. This inquiry is in light of reports suggesting that Te Pati Maori may have taken a copy of Maori census data collected for the purposes of their election campaign.
- If any investigation has been conducted, please provide details and findings of the investigation.

4. **Conflict of Interest Management:**

- Information on the measures and procedures Stats NZ implemented to manage any potential conflicts of interest, given that Manurewa Marae served as the campaign headquarters for the Te Pati Maori electoral candidate, who was also the CEO of the marae.
- Information on the measures and procedures Stats NZ implemented to manage any potential conflicts of interest, given that Waipareira Trust served as the headquarters for the Te Pati Maori President.

Thank you for your assistance. I look forward to your response within the statutory timeframe.

Best regards,

s 9(2)(a)

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From: s 9(2)(a)
To: Alisha Kennedy; s 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Official Information Act Request: Manurewa Marae
Date: Friday, 31 May 2024 10:52:59 am

Kia ora Alisha.

Just did another search to be sure and looks like this hasn't made the news.

Ngā mihi nui,

s 9(2)(a)

[Stats NZ](#) | [Tauranga Aotearoa](#) | Media Phone +64 021 285 9191

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From: Alisha Kennedy s 9(2)(a)

Sent: Friday, May 31, 2024 10:44 AM

To: s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a); s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: Official Information Act Request: Manurewa Marae

Thanks. Nothing recent?

Ngā mihi nui,

Alisha Kennedy (pronouns: she/her/hers)

Pouwhakahaere - Ngā Take Whakawaho | Senior Manager – External Affairs

Tai o te Tumu Whakahaere | Office of the Chief Executive

Tauranga Aotearoa | Stats NZ | stats.govt.nz

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From: s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a)
Sent: Friday, May 31, 2024 10:29 AM
To: Alisha Kennedy s 9(2)(a); s 9(2)(a)
s 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Official Information Act Request: Manurewa Marae
Importance: High

Kia ora.

Nothing recent on either Manurewa Marae or Waipareira Trust in relation to Stats NZ or Census 2023.

These are on Manurewa Marae from November 2023

[Te Pāti Māori not under investigation over Manurewa Marae polling booth - NZ Herald](#)
[Electoral Commission probes concerns about voting at Te Pāti Māori candidate's marae | RNZ News](#)
[Polling station played Te Pāti Māori waiata on election day | Stuff](#)
[Incoming MP Takutai Tarsh Kemp opens up on the attempt to shame Manurewa Marae - NZ Herald](#)
[Electoral Commission polling place decisions under fire amidst recount and voting irregularities at Manurewa Marae - NZ Herald](#)

These are on Waipareira Trust from early May 2024

[Government looks for a better way to count Māori \(newsroom.co.nz\)](#)
[The lack of ambition in new education policy | The Post](#)

February 2024

[Waipareira's controversial campaign loan repaid, executive salaries skyrocket - Te Ao Māori News \(teaonews.co.nz\)](#)

August 2023

[John Tamihere and the Waipareira Trust reach outstanding loan deadline- what happens next? \(newstalkzb.co.nz\)](#)
[Tamihere not talking on charity watchdog's third investigation involving Te Pāti Māori - Te Ao Māori News \(teaonews.co.nz\)](#)
[Election 2023: D-Day for John Tamihere campaign loan; Te Pāti Māori election launch probed - NZ Herald](#)

July 2023

[The shouting and the 'slush fund': Inside John Tamihere's donations stoush - NZ Herald](#)

Ngā mihi nui,

s 9(2)(a)

[Stats NZ](#) | [Tatauranga Aotearoa](#) | Media Phone +64 021 285 9191

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From: Alisha Kennedy s 9(2)(a)
Sent: Friday, May 31, 2024 8:54 AM
To: s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a); s 9(2)(a)
s 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Official Information Act Request: Manurewa Marae

Not that I have seen. I wonder if the complainant has also gone to them.

s 9(2)(a) – can you do a sweep please!?

Ngā mihi nui,

Alisha Kennedy (pronouns: she/her/hers)
Pouwhakahaere - Ngā Take Whakawaho | Senior Manager – External Affairs
Tai o te Tumu Whakahaere | Office of the Chief Executive
Tatauranga Aotearoa | Stats NZ | stats.govt.nz

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From: s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a)
Sent: Friday, May 31, 2024 8:34 AM
To: Alisha Kennedy s 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Official Information Act Request: Manurewa Marae

Is there already news about this? (I can't see it)

From: s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a)
Sent: Friday, May 31, 2024 8:31 AM
To: Mike Webb s 9(2)(a); Office of the GS&CE-Internal Shared Mail
<xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxx.xxxx.xx>; Alisha Kennedy s 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Official Information Act Request: Manurewa Marae

Thanks Mike - yep

From: Mike Webb s 9(2)(a)
Sent: Friday, May 31, 2024 8:13 AM
To: Office of the GS&CE-Internal Shared Mail <xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxx.xxxx.xx>; s 9(2)(a)
s 9(2)(a); Alisha Kennedy
s 9(2)(a)
Subject: FW: Official Information Act Request: Manurewa Marae

s 9(2)(a) – Can you please lead on this – acknowledge, log, and share details with those who may have an interest in this OIA. (I've already included Alisha). Thanks!

From: Office of the GS&CE-External <xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxx.xxxx.xx>
Sent: Friday, May 31, 2024 7:39 AM
To: Office of the GS&CE-Internal Shared Mail <xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxx.xxxx.xx>
Subject: FW: Official Information Act Request

From: s 9(2)(a)
Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2024 5:04 PM
To: Office of the GS&CE-External <xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxx.xxxx.xx>
Subject: Official Information Act Request

Dear Stats NZ,
I am writing to request information under the Official Information Act 1982. Please provide the following details:

1. Funding Information:

- Details of any funding provided to Manurewa Marae and associated entities for undertaking work related to Census 2023.
- Details of any funding provided to Waipareira Trust and associated entities for undertaking work related to Census 2023.

2. Correspondence:

- Copies of all correspondence relating to Manurewa Marae concerning Census 2023.
- Copies of all correspondence relating to Waipareira Trust concerning Census 2023.

3. Investigation into Data Privacy Breach:

- Confirmation of whether any investigation has been undertaken by Stats NZ into a potential data privacy breach by census collectors associated with Manurewa Marae and Waipareira Trust. This inquiry is in light of reports suggesting that Te Pati Maori may have taken a copy of Maori census data collected for the purposes of their election campaign.
- If any investigation has been conducted, please provide details and findings of the investigation.

From: [Kate Satterthwaite](#)
To: [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#) [Alisha Kennedy](#)
Subject: Fwd: Attn [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#) - enquiry on Manurewa Marae
Date: Friday, 31 May 2024 1:27:40 pm
Attachments: [RE Questions serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae census collection.msg](#)
[image001.png](#)

From: Media - Shared Mailbox <xxxxx@xxxxx.xxxx.xx>
Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2024 1:03 PM
To: Media Enquiries <xxxxx@xxxxxxxxx.xxxx.xx>
Cc: Kate Satterthwaite [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)
Subject: RE: Attn [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#) - enquiry on Manurewa Marae

Kia ora Clare,

We received a very similar enquiry.
I've attached the email and our response.
Please reach out if you want to discuss?

Ngā mihi nui,

Alisha Kennedy (pronouns: she/her/hers)
Pouwhakahaere - Ngā Take Whakawaho | Senior Manager – External Affairs
Tai o te Tumu Whakahaere | Office of the Chief Executive
Tatauranga Aotearoa | Stats NZ | [stats.govt.nz](#)

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From: Media Enquiries <xxxxx@xxxxxxxxx.xxxx.xx>
Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2024 12:43 PM
To: Media - Shared Mailbox <xxxxx@xxxxx.xxxx.xx>
Subject: Attn [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#) - enquiry on Manurewa Marae

Kia ora [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#) and team

I'm the media adviser at the Electoral Commission. As discussed on the phone with [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#), I just wanted to give you a heads up about an enquiry we've received from Stuff about Manurewa Marae. I've copied the enquiry and draft response below.

DRAFT RESPONSE

We were not aware of these concerns, and they are not matters that we would look into under the Electoral Act. Concerns about the use of information collected for the Census are best directed to Stats NZ or the Police.

On the Māori Electoral Option – our public information, including the enrolment form, makes it clear that voters of Māori descent can choose the general roll or the Māori roll when they enrol to vote. It is an important choice and it is their choice to make. Once enrolled, Māori voters can change the roll they are on at any time except in the three months before an election. When people make a change, we send a letter of confirmation, so they can check their details are correct. People can check or change the roll they are on online at [vote.nz](#).

ENQUIRY FROM s 9(2)(a)

I have the following questions relating to Manurewa Marae. We require a response by 4.30pm Thursday.

We have spoken to a number of former marae staff who have made the following allegations relating to the Census and the General Election.

They are:

- that inducements (\$100 supermarket vouchers, wellness and hygiene packs, and food parcels) were given to encourage people to complete the 2023 Census. Staff were also paid according to how many forms were completed, in some cases thousands of dollars.
- that alongside those inducements and in the process of the Census forms being completed, Māori were also encouraged to complete an enrolment form to switch from the Māori to General roll in the Tāmaki Makaurau electorate.
- that confidential information collected during the Census - the forms - were photocopied and retained by the Marae, and also passed to the Waipareira Trust through Jotforms. It is alleged this information was later used in the election campaign run by Te Pati Maori's Takutai Tarsh Kemp, who was also the marae's CEO.
- that community events, to encourage people to complete the census and to register to vote in the general election, were paid for using Community Connection (MSD) funding.

An employee of MSD, seconded to the marae, attempted to raise concerns about the retention of confidential census information with Statistics NZ, during the collection period, by ringing the 0800 number. Although she spoke to a staff member, no-one ever called back to seek further information. She also attempted to raise concerns through her MSD line manager.

She has now made a disclosure of serious wrongdoing through the protected disclosure legislation. A number of former staff have also now raised a complaint with police.

I am also aware that some of these staff have raised employment grievances with the marae.

These allegations sit alongside the previous allegations of treating at the marae.

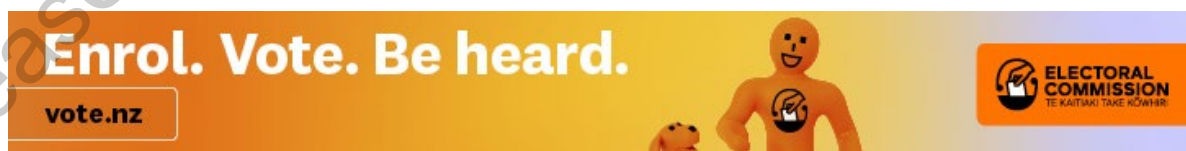
My questions are:

- was the Electoral Commission made aware of any of these allegations?
- will the Commission investigate these claims?

Ngā mihi

Clare Pasley

Clare Pasley (she/her) | Senior Media and Communications Advisor | **Electoral Commission** | **Te Kaitiaki Take Kōwhiri** |
PO Box 3220 | Level 4, 34-42 Manners St, Wellington | Phone **s 9(2)(a)** | Mobile **s 9(2)(a)** | [vote.nz](https://www.elections.nz) | [elections.nz](https://www.elections.nz)



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From: [Emmett Geoghegan](#)
To: [Kate Satterthwaite](#)
Cc: [Privacy](#); [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#) [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#) [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#) [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#) [Alisha Kennedy](#)
Subject: Note re Office of the Privacy Commissioner (OPC) "notification"
Date: Friday, 31 May 2024 2:16:09 pm

Hi Kate,

Currently we ([s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)) have alerted/FYled the OPC that we have this complaint and provided them a summary of it (as it relates to the census forms allegation)

But we have not "notified" the OPC re this complaint using the formal process for notifiable breaches.

[s 9\(2\)\(h\)](#) [Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
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[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Nga mihi

Emmett

Emmett Geoghegan (pronouns: he/him/his)

Chief Legal Advisor | Pou Whakahaere a Ture

Stats NZ | Tatauranga Aotearoa | [stats.govt.nz](#) | [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#)

From: s 9(2)(a)
To: s 9(2)(a)
Cc: [Brendan Anstiss](#); s 9(2)(a)
Subject: Contact list
Date: Friday, 31 May 2024 4:01:00 pm

Talofa s 9(2)(a)

In anticipation of reviewing the Manurewa Marae/WOCA allegations, could you please pull together the key contacts, both internal and external.

Ideally we'll have this ready to go on Tuesday – reach out as you need.

Thanks, s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

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From: [Kate Satterthwaite](#)
To: [Sandra Preston](#); [Mark Sowden](#)
Subject: Quick update - Heads up - 2023 Census collections partnership with Whānau Ora (and Manurewa Marae)
Date: Friday, 31 May 2024 5:37:00 pm
Importance: High

Thanks for your email Sandra – a quick update – we’ve just received a copy of a statement from the NZ Police (the statement is to **s 9(2)(a)**) confirming that a complaint with laid with them this week.

The complaint concerns alleged electoral fraud regarding Census information, Police have shared with us that they are in the very early stages of assessing the information. I have updated the Minister’s office and provided holding statements for both Mark and the Minister. Kind regards, Kate

Attribute to a Police spokesperson:

Police can confirm a complaint was laid this week.

At this time, we are unable to comment further.

ENDS

From: Sandra Preston **s 9(2)(a)**
Sent: Friday, May 31, 2024 4:44 PM
To: Mark Sowden <~~x@xx~~>
Cc: Kate Satterthwaite **s 9(2)(a)**
Subject: Fwd: Heads up - 2023 Census collections partnership with Whānau Ora (and Manurewa Marae)

Hi Mark

Kate and I had a good conversation about this this afternoon. Fantastic that you and your team are all over it establishing the facts about that has happened, getting an IMT set up, securing an independent person to investigate, preparing a media plan/reactive lines (particularly if it goes places over the long weekend) and briefing / providing assurance to your Minister. Really good to see such swift and appropriate actions on such serious matters. Would be keen to connect with you further on this on Tuesday when you return from leave, including on whether and how we might be able to support you.

Enjoy your leave. Speak next week.

Sandra

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From: Kate Satterthwaite **s 9(2)(a)**
Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2024 7:00 PM

To: Sandra Preston s 9(2)(a)

Subject: Heads up - 2023 Census collections partnership with Whānau Ora (and Manurewa Marae)

This email was sent from someone outside of Te Kawa Mataaho. Please take extra care.

Hi Sandra, a heads up to the below no surprises email to our Minister's office.

Some additional information for you - I have liaised with MSD – who have confirmed a protected disclosure has not been raised with them by their employee. However, there is a personal employment matter underway.

Will keep you updated as appropriate, Kate

From: Kate Satterthwaite

Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2024 6:53 PM

To: s 9(2)(a)

Cc: Office of the GS&CE-Internal Shared Mail <xxx@xxx>

Subject: No surprises - 2023 Census collections partnership with Whānau Ora (and Manurewa Marae)

Importance: High

Hi s 9(2)(a) for the awareness of your Minister and middle office, under no surprises.

Yesterday Stats NZ received a query from journalist Andrea Vance relating to the 2023 Census and the General Election – this query is pasted below. A similar query was also received by the Ministry of Social Development, the Electoral Commission, and the Whānau Ora Commissioning agency.

Today Stats NZ provided its response back to Ms Vance – also pasted below.

Ms Vance's query includes allegations that Stats NZ are now actively investigating.

The allegations concern the collection, retention and use of census information collected at Manurewa Marae as part of our 2023 Census collections partnership with the Whānau Ora Commissioning agency.

We have made initial contact with the Whānau Ora Commissioning agency, and I can confirm that we will keep you updated as appropriate, as we investigate these allegations.

If the Minister would like to discuss this, I am available on s 9(2)(a). Alternatively, Mark will be briefed to update the Minister during his scheduled phone call on Tuesday, 4 June 11:30am – 12:00noon.

Kind regards, Kate

Stats NZ Statement:

Stats NZ partnered with Whānau Ora Commissioning Agency to lift low 2023 Census response rates from Māori in Auckland. The collection operations with non-responding and partial responding Māori households were led by Te Pae Herenga o Tāmaki. As part of this, Whānau Ora worked with Manurewa Marae. Questions about how staff were paid in this instance should be directed to Whānau Ora.

Information collected via census forms or any Stats NZ survey is protected by the Data and Statistics Act 2022 and the Privacy Act 2020.

The allegations that census forms were copied and retained, that the information was used for other purposes, and that reports of this nature were not followed up are very serious. We are investigating. We encourage anyone with concerns of this nature to contact @....., or alternatively the Police or the Office of the Privacy Commissioner.

[Ends]

Media query from Andrea Vance:

Good morning,

I have the following questions relating to Manurewa Marae. I appreciate this is a busy day for you, but these are serious allegations and we require a response by 4.30pm Thursday.

We have spoken to a number of former marae staff who have made the following allegations relating to the Census and the General Election.

They are:

- that inducements (\$100 supermarket vouchers, wellness and hygiene packs, and food parcels) were given to encourage people to complete the 2023 Census. Staff were also paid according to how many forms were completed, in some cases thousands of dollars.
- that alongside those inducements and in the process of the Census forms being completed, Māori were also encouraged to complete an enrolment form to switch from the Māori to General roll in the Tāmaki Makaurau electorate
- that confidential information collected during the Census - the forms - were photocopied and retained by the Marae, and also passed to the Waipareira Trust through Jotforms. It is alleged this information was later used in the election campaign run by Te Pati Maori's Takutai Tarsh Kemp,

From: [Kate Satterthwaite](#)
To: s 9(2)(a)
Cc: [Mike Webb](#); [Alisha Kennedy](#)
Subject: DRAFT statements: 2023 Census allegations
Date: Friday, 31 May 2024 5:33:00 pm
Importance: High

Hi s 9(2)(a) please see below for a draft holding statement for your Minister – I have also included Mark’s draft statement for your awareness. These build on the statement already provided to Ms Vance, and we have confirmed with her that the investigation is being carried out by an external who will look at the allegations around both inappropriate use of incentives and inappropriate treatment of the census forms.

Also – an update - the NZ Police have just shared a statement with us (to Ms Vance) confirming that a complaint with laid with them this week. The complaint concerns alleged electoral fraud regarding Census information, Police are in the very early stages of assessing the information.

Draft Holding statement – Minister of Statistics

“The Minister is aware of the serious allegations around the inappropriate use of census forms collected at Manurewa Marae.

The Government Statistician is taking the matter very seriously and has appointed an independent party to investigate.

It is vital the public’s information is keep private, secure and confidential, and as such there are high standards and protections in place. The information collected via census forms is protected by the Data and Statistics Act 2022 and the Privacy Act 2020.”

Draft Holding statement for week of 6 June - Mark Sowden

The following statement can be attributed to Government Statistician and Stats NZ Chief Executive Mark Sowden.

“I take the allegations very seriously and have acted immediately to appoint an independent external party to investigate.

It is paramount that the information collected via census forms or any Stats NZ survey is kept private, secure, and confidential, and that it is only used for the purposes in which it is intended.

The security of this information is so important it is protected by the Data and Statistics Act 2022 and the Privacy Act 2020. I would encourage anyone with concerns of this nature to contact me via xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxx.xxxx.xx. Alternatively, they can contact the Police or the Office of the Privacy Commissioner.”

Kate Satterthwaite

Deputy Chief Executive & Chief of Staff | Office of the Chief Executive
Kaiwhakahaere Matua Mātāmuri & Kaihautū Kaimah | Tari o te Tumu Whakahaere
Stats NZ | Tatauranga Aotearoa | stats.govt.nz | s 9(2)(a)

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From: [Media - Shared Mailbox](#)
To: [Media](#); [Media - Shared Mailbox](#)
Cc: [Kate Satterthwaite](#)
Subject: RE: FYI - Police statement regarding alleged electoral fraud
Date: Friday, 31 May 2024 5:26:14 pm
Attachments: [RE Questions serious allegations relating to Manurewa Marae census collection.msg](#)
[image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)

Kia ora Anna,

Thank you for your email.

We responded to an enquiry from Andrea yesterday – please see attached.

I have cc'd in Kate Satterthwaite, Chief of Staff and Deputy Chief Executive in the Office of the CE for her visibility of your email too.

Ngā mihi nui,

Alisha Kennedy (pronouns: she/her/hers)

Pouwhakahaere - Ngā Take Whakawaho | Senior Manager – External Affairs

Tai o te Tumu Whakahaere | Office of the Chief Executive

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From: Media <xxxxx@xxxxxx.xxxx.xx>

Sent: Friday, May 31, 2024 5:00 PM

To: Media - Shared Mailbox <xxxxx@xxxxxx.xxxx.xx>

Subject: FYI - Police statement regarding alleged electoral fraud

Good evening,

Please see the below brief response going to Andrea Vance at Stuff / Sunday Star Times shortly.

It relates to report made of alleged electoral fraud regarding Census information, Police are in the very early stages of assessing the information.

Thanks,

Anna

Attribute to a Police spokesperson:

Police can confirm a complaint was laid this week.

At this time, we are unable to comment further.

ENDS.

Police Media Team

Piki Ki Te Ao, Ōtāhuhu

Police National Headquarters, Wellington

AKL +64 09 353 3111

WLG +64 04 238 5111

W www.police.govt.nz

wordmark transparent



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Privacy and Legal team Situation report (SITREP) – re WOCA concerns (as they relate to Privacy concerns and legal advice)

Date of SITREP - 30 May 2024 - 2pm

Current status - Finalised/~~DRAFT~~

Portions of this document are subject to Legal Privilege – labelled as “Legal” for ease of identification.

1.0 Situation to date (what has happened)

- Allegations (via the media) that -
 - that confidential information collected during the Census - the forms - were photocopied and retained by the Manurewa Marae,
 - That the information was also passed to the Waipareira Trust
 - That the information was later used in the election campaign run by Te Pati Maori's Takutai Tarsh Kemp, (also CEO of Manurewa Marae).
 - An employee of MSD, seconded to the marae, attempted to raise concerns about the retention of confidential census information with Statistics NZ, during the collection period, by ringing the 0800 number. Although she spoke to a staff member, no-one ever called back to seek further information.

(Note – other concerns re inducements/incentive and other matters were raised in the media query.)

2.0 Actions to date (what has been done)

s 9(2)(h)

- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]

Other

- Initial consideration of legislation completed.
- Initial Media response drafted
- Initial fact-finding meeting held with relevant Census staff
- Office of the Privacy Commissioner alerted to the complaint
- MSD contacted (they have parallel media query – and a related employment matter).

- We have searched for any indication a complaint was made and/or escalated within Stats – finding no relevant information.
- Brendan A’s spoken to the Trust – he indicated we’ll likely be back in touch. They also have received related media, which they’ll front.

3.0 Actions to be completed (what will be done)

- Office of the Privacy Commissioner chat (for afternoon of 30 May).
- Media response to be finalised and sent.
- ~~Brendan A to contact WOCA before media response is sent.~~
- Timeline to come from Brendan Anstiss? (Kate S email refers)

4.0 Issue(s) / Interim Findings

s 9(2)(h)

- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]

Other

- We have good evidence that the topic of privacy and confidentiality was “front and centre” in material WOCA used to brief staff and partners. And that operations seemed well planned (e.g. woca staff visiting dwellings had app to tell them where nearest post box was to post forms)
- We have some evidence that WOCA was educated re how Stats operated community assisted completion events (ACE) and that importance of care re privacy was emphasized. (Noting that documents we provided to WOCA were partially incomplete and we do not seem to have received detailed information in response regarding “how” WOCA would run ACE.)
- The relevant Privacy impact Assessment was never completed and signed.
- We do not know how the event in question was run in practice nor the protocols that were set for it by WOCA.
- Stats does not have access to call log information from our census contact centre supplier – meaning we cannot look for evidence that a relevant phone call did or did not occur.

- There is no indication that the issue was raised/escalated within Stats. And evidence that escalation would have been likely if any complaint was communicated as being about census forms being misused.
- We know (from facebook) that 18 June 2023 is a likely date for at least one event at the marae.

5.0 Assumptions

- That the complaint relates to a WOCA run event rather than earlier Stats NZ run Assisted Completion event at the same Marae or to activity the Marae ran independently.

6.0 Information gaps/needs

- We do not have a great deal of detail regarding the allegations. For example, we do not know which pages of census forms were allegedly copied (just the front page?).
- We do not know if a complaint to the Police (or other agencies) has been made.
- We do not know how the event in question was run in practice nor the protocols that were set for it by WOCA.
- We do not have any feedback from WOCA or the Marae that may shed light on the complaint or it's context.
- ~~Contact centre protocols may illustrate the likelihood of a concern being escalated if it was clearly raised?~~
- ~~Field Methods and Design team received odd queries or concerns that arose or were raised with census? Do they have a relevant log of queries? (Have asked s 9(2)(a).~~
- Did we have any difficulties or note any differences re the supply of paper forms resulting from the WOCA processes? e.g. did forms arrive in unusual ways or in unusual volumes?
- Confirm that Manurewa Marae did not also act as an ACL (assisted competition location) separate to Stats NZ or WOCA run events? (Their community counts funding agreement references ACL but then does not set any out in the details of activities.)


From: [Emmett Geoghegan](#)
To: [Alisha Kennedy](#); [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#); [s 9\(2\)\(a\)](#) [Mike Webb](#)
Subject: [REDACTED]
Date: Monday, 22 July 2024 3:09:19 pm
Attachments: [AttachedImage](#)
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[AttachedImage](#)
[AttachedImage](#)



Emmett Geoghegan invited you to edit a file


[s 9\(2\)\(h\)](#) [REDACTED]



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s 9(2)(h) [Redacted]

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s 9(2)(h)

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