



16 January 2025

File Ref: OIA 50331

Grace Haden  
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Tēnā koe Ms Haden

### Official Information Act request

Thank you for your information request dated 1 December 2024. You requested the following information:

*"please provide all documents which consider the validity of the treaty now given that*

- 1. the translation and English text do not co relate*
- 2. not all Maori signed the english version*
- 3. the British appear to have breached the treaty by removing british citizenship as conferred in the third article*

*please provide documentation which shows that an issue was raised with Britain for removing the citizenship status from Maori in direct breach of the treaty*

*please provide discussion papers and evidence that show that the agreement made at a time before New Zealand was a colony is binding on a nation which has evolved as a independent self governing state of non british citizens*

*Please provide the legislative references which make the non maori population of the current New Zealand Government and its citizens party to the treaty of waitangi*

*By virtue of the citizenship act 1977 we are New Zealand citizens or not Please provide evidence that Maori have different rights to any other citizen regardless of how many generations we have been here or our heritage.*

*.. in contract law we are not party to an agreement that was not made by us, unless there is something that binds us I am looking for that evidence*

*On the issue of "cede" the google translation of the first article reads The Chiefs of the Commonwealth and all the Chiefs who have joined that Commonwealth shall forever cede to the Queen of England the whole Government of their lands.*

*By way of OIA what Maori dictionary was used for the interpretation which lacks the word Cede, and when was that dictionary first published*

*what evidence does a person need to have to claim they are Maori"*

We do not consider the information you have requested constitutes a request for official information as defined by the Official Information Act 1982 (**OIA**). Official Information means any information held by an agency that is subject to the OIA and Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987. Te Puni Kōkiri does not hold the information you have requested.

For further information for requesters of official information, I refer you to the Office of the Ombudsman's guide "Making official information requests: A guide for requesters" - <https://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz/resources/making-official-information-requests-guide-requesters>.

We suggest you consider contacting the National Library who may be able to assist you with accessing some of the relevant documents or information - <https://natlib.govt.nz/about-us/contact-us>.

I trust my response satisfies your request.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this response. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that Te Puni Kōkiri publishes some of its OIA responses on its website, after the response is sent to the requester. The responses published are those that are considered to have a high level of public interest. We will not publish your name, address or contact details.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request with us, including this decision, please feel free to contact us at [oiatpk@govt.nz](mailto:oiatpk@govt.nz).

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Sutton', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Steven Sutton  
Hautū, Te Puni Tapatahi | Deputy Secretary, Governance