

7 February 2025

John Luke  
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Ref: OIA 118521

Tēnā koe John

### **Official Information Act request: Justices of the Peace**

Thank you for your email of 19 December 2024 requesting information, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), regarding the number of Justices of the Peace (JPs). Specifically, you requested:

*Can you please provide me with the total number of JP in New Zealand as of today 19 Dec 2024. how many new JP you have appointed and how many JP has retired between 1st Jan 2024 to 19 Dec 2024. Also, please let me know how many new candidates are currently going through the appointment process.*

*Further, can you please confirm who is the youngest JP in NZ, is this new correct?  
<https://www.otago.ac.nz/news/newsroom/off-campus-aotearoas-youngest-jp>*

*"Sworn in in June 2022 at the age of 21, Executive Assistant Bronson Blackburn has the distinction of being Aotearoa's youngest JP."*

As of 19 December 2024, there are 6609 JPs in New Zealand. During the calendar year of 2024, there were 215 JPs appointed, 189 JPs that retired and 176 nominations going through the appointment process. I can confirm that Mr Blackburn is still the youngest JP.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website at: [Official Information Act responses | New Zealand Ministry of Justice](#)

If you require any further information, please contact Media & Social Media Manager Joe Locke at [media@justice.govt.nz](mailto:media@justice.govt.nz)

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](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by phone on 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



Jeff Orr  
**Chief Legal Counsel**