

7 February 2025

Ryan Ambler  
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Ref: OIA 118747

Tēnā koe Ryan

**Official Information Act request: the Bills of Exchange Act 1908**

Thank you for your email of 13 January 2025 to the Ministry of Justice (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) information regarding the Bills of Exchange Act 1908. Specifically, you requested:

*“Are Ministry of Justice obliged to process bills of exchange they may receive; does the Bills of Exchange Act 1908 bind the Ministry of Justice?”*

Your request is refused under section 18(g)(i) of the Act. While the Act allows New Zealanders to ask government agencies for information, there is no requirement to create new information, compile information they do not hold, respond to hypothetical questions, or provide an opinion. As you are seeking a legal opinion, this is not held by the Ministry and there are no grounds for believing it is held by another agency subject to the Act.

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) administers the Bills of Exchange Act 1908. Therefore, you may wish to contact MBIE at: ministerialservices@mbie.govt.nz for further information.

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**