

30 March 2026

Erika Whittome

By email to: fyi-request-34125-df564b02@requests.fyi.org.nz

Kia ora Erika

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST 2026/22

On the On Monday 23 March 2026, you made a request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA) for the following information:

Thank you for this information below:

"To begin the official count, Returning Officers create a master roll by consolidating all the electoral rolls from voting places in each electorate, which lists the names of people who voted in each electorate. We scrutinise the master roll to identify voters who may have voted more than once in an electorate."

Would you please provide more details on this information?

- 1. How does the consolidating or crosschecking take place? Eg Mount Albert role has 40,000+ names on it.*
- 2. Does each voting place hold just one copy of the electoral roll in a paper printout?*
- 3. How is a master roll created? What is the process for taking paper printouts containing 40,000+ names from multiple voting places and then consolidating them into a master roll?*

Each voting place will have several rolls for its home electorate and rolls for the relevant Māori roll and in many cases, rolls for neighbouring electorates. Every page of these rolls from every voting place in the electorate is scanned and uploaded to create an electronic master roll for each electorate. The master roll for each electorate also includes all special votes taken in New Zealand and from overseas. The master roll is created electronically using the electronic roll scrutiny application (ERSA).

As advised in our earlier response to you, we then scrutinise the electorate's master roll to identify voters who may have voted more than once in an electorate. For example, if an individual has cast multiple votes in the Mt Albert electorate at different voting places on election day, this will be detected via Mt Albert's master roll. The comparison process is undertaken electronically using ERSA.

In the interests of transparency, we release responses to Official Information Act requests every 3 months. We will publish this response with your personal details redacted.

You have the right under section 28(3) of the Act to make a complaint to the Ombudsman if you are not satisfied with the response to your request. Information about how to do this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phoning 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Kristina Temel
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