



15 June 2026

26-OIAD-01331

John Luke
fyi-request-34591-xxxxxxx@xxxxxxx.xxx.org.nz

Tēnā koe John

Thank you for your email of 16 May 2026 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) of the Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry):

I noted you have recently called for appointment for the following:

Waikato River Authority closed- 13 May 2026

May I ask how you called for public nomination and on what platform you have call for public nominations e.g. govt.jobs website. A copy of your ad and pay rate as well.

Also, how many applications you have received for each of the role from the public and how many you have received from other nominating agencies such as TPK or Ministry of women etc for your role.

How many you have shortlisted and how many you have interviewed.

Also, can I request to view the appointment letter if there is one sent to the previous appointee. I am happy for you to remove any relevant personal information.

How many vacancy for each board your are looking to fill for this round.

I have identified two documents in scope of your request.

A copy of the position description, which was used to inform advertising for the position on the Waikato River Authority (WRA) Board, is being released to you in full. This document includes the pay rate. The Minister responsible for this process is reviewing fees alongside this appointment process, in line with the updated [Cabinet Fees Framework](#).

Please note that the date the advertising closed was amended to 18 May 2026, to provide for 2 weeks advertising time.

I am releasing a previous letter of appointment to you in part, with some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act to protect the privacy of natural persons.

In terms of section 9(1) of the Act, I am satisfied that, in the circumstances, the withholding of information in this request is not outweighed by other considerations that render it desirable to make the information available in the public interest.

Call for nominations

On 4 May 2026 the Ministry called for nominations, via the following channels:

- The Ministry for the Environment website (<https://environment.govt.nz/>)
- SEEK New Zealand website (<https://nz.seek.com>)
- NZ Government Jobs website (<https://jobs.govt.nz/>)
- Emails to the nominating agencies:
 - o Ministry for Women
 - o Te Puni Kōkiri
 - o Ministry for Pacific Peoples
 - o Ministry for Ethnic Communities
 - o Ministry of Disabled People.

The Minister for RMA Reform also sought nominations from the Minister of Finance, Local Government, Māori Development and the territorial authorities listed in schedule 6, section 2 (1)(g) of the Waikato-Tainui Raupatu Claims (Waikato River) Settlement Act 2010. Nominations closed on 18 May.

All five Crown appointments are under consideration.

I am unable to provide information relating to how many applications the Ministry has received, shortlisting or interview details as the appointment process is still underway. This information is being withheld under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act, to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman of my decisions relating to this request, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Please note that due to the public interest in our work, the Ministry publishes responses to requests for official information shortly after the response has been sent on our website at: <https://environment.govt.nz/about-us/official-information-act-requests/>. If you have any queries about this, please feel free to contact our Ministerial Services team at: ministerials@mfe.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā



Nicole Were

Manager – Governance

Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao

