

Reference: 20260435

7 July 2026

Harry Satoshi
fyi-request-34885-3ff77820@requests.fyi.org.nz



Dear Harry

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request, received on 9 June 2026. You requested the following:

I am writing under the Official Information Act 1982 to request information about how the New Zealand government manages and accounts for proceeds received from confiscated cryptocurrency assets.

...

- 1. Whether The Treasury receives or accounts for proceeds from the sale of confiscated cryptocurrency assets, and if so, how those proceeds are classified and recorded.*
- 2. The total amount received by the Crown from confiscated cryptocurrency asset sales, broken down by year from 2015 to present, where such records exist.*
- 3. Whether confiscated cryptocurrency assets appear on any Crown balance sheet or asset register, and if so, how they are valued.*
- 4. Whether The Treasury has issued any guidance to government agencies on the accounting treatment of seized or confiscated cryptocurrency.*
- 5. Whether The Treasury holds any cryptocurrency assets directly, and if so, the nature and estimated value of those holdings.*

Please provide documents, records, policies or guidelines that are held and can be released under the Act. Where information cannot be released in full, I ask that it be released in part with reasons given for any withholding.

The Treasury does not hold any information regarding parts 2 and 3 of your request which are being transferred to the Ministry of Business, Innovation, and Employment (MBIE) today; you will receive separate correspondence notifying you of the partial transfer of your request. However, the statutory transfer deadline has already passed and as such we have also extended your request by 10 working days under section 15A(1)(b) of the OIA due to the consultations that were necessary for us to determine the correct agency to partially transfer your request to.

Although your request has been extended to enable the partial transfer of parts 2 and 3 to MBIE, we have made a final decision on parts 1, 4, and 5 of your request which is detailed below.

Response to your request

A thorough search of all available sources was conducted, and no information was found to be within the scope of your request above. Therefore, your request is refused under section 18(e) of the OIA, as the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

The Treasury does not directly hold cryptocurrency assets, does not receive or directly account for proceeds from the sale of confiscated cryptocurrency assets, and has not issued any guidance to government agencies on the accounting treatment of seized or confiscated cryptocurrency. The Financial Statements of the Government contains aggregated financial information and does not contain the level of disaggregation required to identify amounts received by the Crown from confiscated cryptocurrency assets.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) and enclosed documents may be published on the Treasury website.

This reply addresses the information you requested. Under section 28(3) of the OIA, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request.

The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

Hannah Singleton
Manager, Fiscal Reporting