

6 July 2017

Nigel Gray

BY EMAIL: fyi-request-5848-89ea0b56@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Gray

Request for information about Westpac

I refer to your email of 8 June 2017 in which you requested the following information:

"Can you please clarify for me what laws exist regarding profiteering and whether you have any investigation planned regarding the profiteering that Westpac is evidently conducting in New Zealand at this time."

We have considered your requests in two parts. Each is addressed in turn below.

Part 1

You have requested the following:

"Can you please clarify for me what laws exist regarding profiteering."

We consider that this request is not covered by the Official Information Act 1982 as it is not a request for official information. We consider it constitutes a request for legal advice which we are unable to provide to you.

You may wish to engage a lawyer to provide you with that advice, or alternatively you can visit your local Citizens Advice Bureau or Community Law Centre, who offer a free advice service to members of the public. You can find out more about these organisations on the following websites: <http://www.cab.org.nz> and <http://communitylaw.org.nz>.

Part 2

You have requested the following:


"[W]hether you have any investigation planned regarding the profiteering that Westpac is evidently conducting in New Zealand at this time."

We have considered this request under the Official Information Act 1982 and decided to provide the information to you.

The Serious Fraud Office has no active inquiries or investigations into Westpac New Zealand Limited.

You are entitled to make a complaint about our decision to the Office of the Ombudsmen. They can be contacted at P O Box 10152, Wellington 6143 or at office@ombudsmen.parliament.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'P. O'Neil', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Paul O'Neil
General Counsel