



Te Kawa Mataaho

Public Service Commission

9 February 2024

9(2)(a) privacy

9(2)(a) privacy

Official Information Request

Our Ref: OIA 2023-0342

I refer to your official information request received on 31 January 2024 where you asked:

“I am making an official information request on : how many governmental departments will get a reverse name/title change from Maori back to English and how much this is predicted to cost.

Some of these public service agencies have been working under a Maori name followed by an English name since 2018. Since then everyone has come to know Oranga Tamariki and if they haven't, they have used modern technology to seek advice on this. Our children are speaking te reo and youngsters are speaking te reo. Most of our lawyers, teachers, doctors, nurses and other public servants are trying their best to include some te reo in their vocabulary. Why should this be changed back on a whimsical money draining exercise when there are clearly some other significant political issues to address.”

Our response

The Government has not given any direction on changing Public Service agency names from Māori to English. Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission support the policies of the Government of the day and will respond to the policies as required.

However, currently we do not hold any information within the scope of your request, therefore, I am refusing your request under section 18(e) of the Official Information Act 1982 on the grounds the information requested does not exist.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Ministerial.Services@publicservice.govt.nz.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that we intend to publish this letter (with your personal details removed) on the Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission's website.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nicky Dirks', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Nicky Dirks

Manager – Ministerial and Executive Services
Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission