

22 February 2022

By email to: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST 2022/01

On 24 January 2022 you made a request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) for the following information:

We request all correspondence between the Electoral Commission and the Ministry of Justice after 1 January 2021 regarding the current disclosure regime for loans and donations expressed in the Electoral Act 1993. We also request any assessments the Electoral Commission has made that indicate the financial implications of any changes to the current disclosure regime.

Attached are the following documents that come within scope of the request:

	Correspondence released	Information withheld and reason for withholding
1	Email of 10 September 2021 from Electoral Commission to Ministry of Justice (Attachment 1.0) Donation issues requiring clarification in the Electoral Act (Attachment 1.2)	Attachment 1.1 not within scope of the request Attachment 1.2 (page 1 of documents released to you) with some information withheld to maintain legal professional privilege, under section 9(2)(h) Attachment 1.3 withheld to maintain legal professional privilege, section 9(2)(h)
2	Emails of 10 September 2021 between Electoral Commission and Ministry of Justice of 2021 and donations timetable (Attachment 2.0) Donations review timetable (Attachment 2.1)	Parts of attachment 2.0 redacted to remove information not within scope of request
3	Email of 29 September 2021 from Ministry of Justice to Electoral Commission (Attachment 3.0) and political donations briefing (Attachment 3.1)	Attachment 3.0 (page 9 of documents released) – parts redacted to remove information not within scope of request

		Attachment 3.1 (from page 27 of the documents) is released with some information withheld under s 9(2)(g)(i), 9(2)(f)(iv) and 9(2)(a). Attachment 3.2 Briefing of 5 August 2021 is publicly available
4	Email of 3 December 2021 from Ministry of Justice to Electoral Commission on release of consultation on political donations (Attachment 4.0)	Some content of attachment 4.0 (at page 10) and all of attachment 4.1 withheld under section 9(2)(f)(iv).
5	Emails of 12 and 17 January 2022 between Ministry of Justice and Electoral Commission and return form (Attachments 5.0 and 5.1)	Emails begin at page 12 of 43, and are released with some contact information withheld under s 9(2)(a) of the OIA.

Some contact details have been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act to protect the privacy of natural persons.

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

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
Manager Legal and Policy