

10 February 2026

By email to: [REDACTED]

Kia ora [REDACTED]

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST 2026/01

On Tuesday, 30 December 2025 you made a request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA) for the following information:

I request the following information relating to political donations and compliance matters in the Hawke's Bay region:

1. **DONATION RECORDS - HAWKE'S BAY ELECTORATES** All records of political donations disclosed for the Napier, Hastings, and Tuketuki electorates for the period 2005-present, including donor names, amounts, and recipient parties/candidates.
2. **COMPLIANCE INVESTIGATIONS**
Records of any compliance investigations relating to political donations in the Hawke's Bay region, including investigations into undisclosed donations, donation splitting, or donations exceeding disclosure thresholds.
3. **FISHING INDUSTRY DONATIONS**
Records of political donations from fishing industry entities, including quota holders, fishing companies, and industry associations, to parties or candidates in the Hawke's Bay region.
4. **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES DONATIONS**
Records of political donations from law firms, accounting firms, and professional services entities in the Hawke's Bay region.
5. **GAMING TRUST CONNECTIONS**
Any records identifying connections between gaming trust administrators and political donations in the Hawke's Bay region.
6. **COMPLAINTS RECEIVED**
Records of complaints received regarding political donations in the Hawke's Bay region, including the nature of complaints and outcomes.
7. **ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS**
Records of any enforcement actions taken regarding political donation compliance in the Hawke's Bay region.

TIME PERIOD: 1 January 2005 to present

The Electoral Commission publishes donors, which registered party or candidate they donated to, and how much they donated.

Aside from candidate returns of donations and loans, we do not organise donations by electorate. We also do not collect information about the business affiliations of donors. On this basis, your request is refused under section 18(e) of the Act. More information about where you can find the information that is collected by the Commission is below.

Before 1 January 2026, registered parties had to let the Electoral Commission know within 10 working days when they received more than \$20,000 from a single donor between 1 January of election year and the day before election day (13 October 2023 for the previous General Election). This information can be found here: [Donations exceeding \\$20,000 | Elections](#). Note that from 1 January 2026, registered parties now have 20 working days to disclose.

From 1 January 2011 to 31 December 2022, registered political parties had to disclose within 10 working days when they received more than \$30,000 from a single donor within a 12-month period. These returns are available here: [Donations exceeding \\$30,000 | Elections](#).

Registered political parties must file a return of the donations and loans they get each year. We make these returns available to the public here: [Party donations and loans by year | Elections](#).

Candidates must report donations to their election campaign that are over \$1,500, as well as any candidate loans from 1 January 2023 onward. The rules for reporting candidate donations and loans can be found here: [Candidate rules | Elections](#).

The published candidate returns containing candidate donor information for the 2023 General Election and previous elections can be located by navigating our Past Elections page, found here: <https://elections.nz/democracy-in-nz/historical-events/>. Candidate returns for the 2005 general election are not available. In accordance with section 211, as it stood prior to 2007 candidate returns for the 2005 general election were required to be destroyed after the close of polling day for the 2011 general election.

You have also requested information regarding complaints, investigations and enforcement related to donations in the Hawke's Bay region. We do not record donors or donations complaints by geographical area. On this basis, your request is refused under section 18(e) of the Act. Information on donations matters referred to Police since 2008 are set out in the table below. We do not identify individual candidates:

Event or date of referral	Subject of referral
2005 General Election	36 candidates referred for late expense and donation returns
2008 General Election	9 candidates referred for late expense and donation returns
2009 Mt Albert By-election	5 candidates referred for late expense and donation returns
2011 Annual party returns	2 parties failed to file annual return of party donations and loans by deadline

2011 General Election	9 candidates referred for late expense and donation returns
3 February 2015 (for 2014 General Election)	10 candidates referred for late expense and donation returns
29 May 2015 - Not event specific	Garry Mallett, former party secretary of ACT Party for failure to file two returns of party donations exceeding \$30,000 within 10 working days
23 May 2016 - Not event specific	MANA Movement party secretary for failing to file the annual return of party donations and loans by deadline
9 February 2018 (for 2017 General Election)	Referral of three candidates for failure to file a candidate return of election expenses and donations by deadline
19 July 2018 - Not event specific	Referral of party secretary of the New Zealand People's Party for five instances of failure to file return of party donations exceeding \$30,000 within 10 working days
10 February 2020 - Not event specific	Referral to Police to investigate whether failure to transmit party donations and non-disclosure of party donations to NZ First meant offences were committed
11 March 2021 (for 2020 General Election and Referendums)	Referral of 17 instances of failure to file a candidate return of election expenses and donations by deadline
9 April 2021 - Not event specific	Referral of Te Pāti Māori party secretary for failure to declare donations or aggregated donations exceeding \$30,000 within 10 working days
9 April 2021 (for 2020 General Election)	Referral for non-disclosure of candidate donations and election expenditure
5 March 2024 (for 2023 General Election)	Referral of 15 candidates at the 2023 election who failed to file a candidate return
7 June 2024 (for 2023 General Election)	Referral of David MacLeod MP for undeclared candidate donations. *The candidate is named here as he identified himself publicly at the time.

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.

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 Regulation and Policy