

23 March 2026

By email to: [REDACTED]

Kia ora [REDACTED]

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST 2026/17

On Monday, 9 March 2026 you made a request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA) for the following information:

3. LEGAL AUTHORITY

Please provide:

- a) Statutory authority under which any such registration was made*
- b) Evidence of consent by the man standing in his natural state with breath: Richard-Owen: POWELL to such registration*
- c) Proof of agency relationship authorizing registration of this name*
- d) Documentation establishing ownership of the name by the Electoral Commission*

4. TRUST RELATIONSHIP

Given that the Electoral Commission operates under statutory authority:

- a) In what capacity does the Commission hold any registration (trustee/beneficial owner/agent)?*
- b) Who is the beneficial owner of any electoral registration?*
- c) What fiduciary duties does the Commission owe to the living man?*

5. ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY

Regarding Electoral Act enforcement:

- a) Under what lawful authority can the Commission compel registration of a living man/woman?*
- b) What evidence exists that the man standing in his natural state with breath: Richard-Owen: POWELL is subject to Electoral Act jurisdiction?*
- c) How does the Commission distinguish between the living being and any legal person/entity/corporation*

Questions 1 & 2: Electoral roll verification & registration details, fall within scope of Information privacy principal 6 of the [Privacy Act 2020](#).

As such, we let you know in our acknowledgement on Tuesday, 10 March 2026, that these two questions would be dealt with as Privacy Act requests in a separate email response.

Responses to the rest of your questions are outlined below:

3a, 3b, 3c. Enrolment is compulsory under [section 82](#) of the Electoral Act 1993 (the Act). As enrolment is compulsory, evidence of consent for enrolment and ongoing retention is not held.

3d. The Electoral Commission (the Commission) does not 'own' any of the names of individuals on the electoral roll.

4a. The Commission is an independent Crown entity, as stated in section 7 of the Crown Entities Act 2004, these are bodies corporate that are established by or under an Act. In the case of the Commission, it is established under section 4B of the Act.

4b. There is no beneficial owner of electoral registration. The electoral roll is held and maintained by the Commission to abide by our statutory responsibilities and to fulfil the objective of the Commission as set out in section 4C of the Act. This is the objective of administering the electoral system impartially, efficiently, effectively a way that facilitates participation in parliamentary democracy, promotes understanding of the electoral system and associated matters and maintains confidence in the administration of the electoral system.

4c. Please see the objective of the Commission at section 4C of the Act and the functions of the Commission at section 5 of the Act. Further duties and obligations of the Commission can be found throughout the Act and the Electoral Regulations 1996.

5a. Enrolment is compulsory under section 82 of the Act.

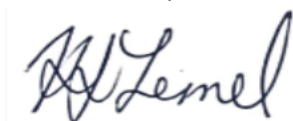
5b. The evidence that you are subject to the jurisdiction of the Electoral Act was shared with you on 19 March 2026, for example the enrolment form dated 14 January 2010.

5c. The definition of 'elector' used by the Electoral Commission is the definition contained in section 3 of the Electoral Act: elector, in relation to any district, means a person registered, or qualified to be registered, as an elector of that district.

In the interests of transparency, we release responses to Official Information Act requests every 3 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
Chief Legal Advisor, Legal Regulation and Policy