

23 March 2026

By email to: [REDACTED]

Kia ora [REDACTED]

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST 2026/18

On the evening of Tuesday, 17 March 2026, you made a request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA) for the following information:

*Would you please share the information on the processes to track and identify a person voting multiple times in the same electorate, ie crosschecking?
For example in the Mt Albert electorate, how is there crosschecking on the electoral role printouts at each voting location to ensure that say, John Clarke, does not visit multiple polling locations and vote more than once on election day?*

The Electoral Commission has safeguards in place to protect against people casting multiple votes.

To begin the official count, Returning Officers create a master roll by consolidating all the electoral rolls from voting places in each electorate, which lists the names of people who voted in each electorate. We scrutinise the master roll to identify voters who may have voted more than once in an electorate. For example, if an individual has cast multiple votes in the Mt Albert electorate at different voting places on election day, this will be detected via the master roll.

The Commission is also able to detect those who have voted more than once across different electorate's master rolls. For example, if an individual casts multiple votes in different electorates, this will also be detected via the master rolls.

Where the Returning Officer is satisfied a person has voted more than once, both ballot papers are disallowed and extracted from the official count. Cases of dual voting may be referred by the Commission to the New Zealand Police.

Voting more than once at the same election amounts to the offence of personation under section 215 of the Electoral Act 1993. This includes voting twice under one's own name or voting as another person.

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
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Legal, Regulation & Policy