

2 June 2026

By email to: [REDACTED]

Kia ora [REDACTED]

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST 2026/39

On Monday, 4 May you made a request under the Official Information Act 1982 for the following information:

How much does is the total cost to the NZ Taxpayer during election years to operate (administrate, staff the various offices, rent these offices etc etc);
- the general role
- the Māori role

The total cost of maintaining both electoral rolls is expected to be \$20,504,301 for the period 1 July 2026 – 30 June 2027.

The total includes:

- General Election enrolment processing:
 - o Staffing to cover the uplift in volume during election year
 - o Occupancy and other supporting costs for the uplifted workforce
 - o Delivery of the Enrolment Update Campaign (postal campaign only)
- Māori Electoral Option (MEO) enrolment processing:
 - o Staffing to cover uplift in volume of transactions up to the exemption period before the election
 - o Freepost returns from the MEO mailout (see excluded)
- Business as usual activity:
 - o Permanent enrolment premises
 - o Permanent enrolment workforce
 - o Baseline enrolment processing costs

The total excludes:

- Tagged contingency enrolment spending for:
 - o Improved controls and checks and staffing to address the Office of the Auditor General's recommendations on the 2023 General Election
 - o Data Matching - of data supplied by other agencies with enrolment data under section 263B of the Electoral Act (budgeted for 2025/26)
- Digital or Public Education aspects of Enrolment Update Campaign.
- Core postal campaign for MEO (cost is in the current financial year, not 2026/27)

Electoral Commission
Level 4, 34-42 Manners Street, PO Box 3220, Wellington 6140, New Zealand
Telephone +64 4 495 0030

www.vote.nz | www.elections.nz

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 Official Information 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



Lucy Brader
Deputy Chief Executive, Enterprise Services