

2 June 2026

By email to: [REDACTED]

Kia ora [REDACTED]

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST 2026/40

On Thursday 21 May 2026 you made a request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA) for the following information:

- *What Artificial Intelligence is your Ministry considering implementing in the next year?*
- *What aspects or parts of the business will it be implemented? ie how will the AI be used*
- *Will it's implementation reduce the workload or staff numbers?*
- *What safety and security protocols has it had to pass to be considered acceptable for implementation?*

The Electoral Commission is considering implementing Microsoft CoPilot Chat in the next year. It is expected to be implemented across the organisation to support staff in tasks associated with general business activities. Considerations on its impact on workload or staff numbers are not part of the work to implement this solution. We expect to establish appropriate policy, usage guidance and security assurance before it is implemented as defined in the NZ Information Security Manual (NZISM).

The Commission is also considering the use of AI products by suppliers in their provision of services, such as semantic analysis from our providers of contact centre technologies. Considerations on its impact on the workload or staff numbers are not part of the work, and security assurance will be updated for these suppliers if required.

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



Lucy Brader
Deputy Chief Executive, Enterprise Services