



14 August 2019

Neil
fyi-request-10933-e98bc297@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Neil

Official Information Act Request
Our Ref: SSCOIA 2019-0220

I refer to your Official Information Act request dated 8 August 2019 where you have asked:

"At a conference on 2 August 2019 the Solicitor General and Chief Executive of Crown Law advised that Chief Executives of Public Agencies had signed an agreement in which they agreed that they would refuse to speak on 'panels' which are not regarded as diverse.

Please provide a copy of the pledge, including which agency Chief Executives have signed.

If it is not apparent by the terms of the document please advise what would be regarded as a diverse panel. For example, would (or could) an all woman panel be regarded as diverse, if not would an all woman panel with a member of an ethnic minority be regarded as diverse? Would an all male panel always be regarded as not diverse? If so, would that still be the case if a member of the panel identified as homosexual. Would a panel comprised of white, heterosexual, male persons be regarded as diverse if the members were of a variety of ages. Would a white, heterosexual, male panel of members of a similar age be regarded as diverse if some members were originally of working class background? What about an all Maori panel, how would that be regarded?

Please provide any documentation (including email exchanges between public servants confirming that the above issues have been considered) 4. Please provide any correspondence to or from the relevant Minister of the agency responsible for driving this initiative in which the Ministers support for this pledge is confirmed".

We have transferred your request to the Inland Revenue Department, as information to which your request relates is believed to be more closely connected with the functions of the Inland Revenue Department. In these circumstances, we are required by section 14 of the Official Information Act 1982 to transfer your request.

You will hear further from the Inland Revenue Department concerning your request.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nicky Dirks'.

Nicky Dirks
Managing Principal – Ministerial Services
State Services Commission