

23 October 2013

Mr Luke Christensen  
Via email: [fyi-request-1190-4545d1ad@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-1190-4545d1ad@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Mr Christensen

Thank you for your email of 7 October 2013 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982:

“any information regarding requests from the Minister of Statistics (including his office) for early release of the electoral population data, that lead to its release on October 7, 2013.”

No such requests were received by Statistics New Zealand, either from the Minister of Statistics or his office. Therefore, under section 18(e) of the Official Information Act 1982, Statistics New Zealand refuses the request.

The timeline for the release of electoral population data is set by the Government Statistician in consultation with the Electoral Commission and Land Information New Zealand, without Ministerial consultation or intervention. The Government Statistician has statutory independence under section 15(1) of the Statistics Act 1975.

Under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act you have the right, by way of complaint to an Ombudsman, to seek a review of the department's decision above.

Yours sincerely



Liz MacPherson  
**Government Statistician**