

12 JUN 2020

James Watson  
[fyi-request-12538-db9fdea8@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-12538-db9fdea8@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Mr Watson

**Official Information Act 1982 request**

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request of 26 March 2020 regarding Waitangi Tribunal timeframes and reports. On 28 April 2020, your request was extended due to the COVID-19 pandemic, with a response due within 20 working days of the office re-opening.

Your request was for the following:

- 1. The average time-frame it has taken the Waitangi Tribunal from receiving a claim relating to proposed legislation (i.e. relating to the Tribunal's jurisdiction under s 8 of the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975) to issuing a report in respect of such a claim; and*
- 2. The number of (and name of the) reports since 1990 in which the Waitangi Tribunal has found that a statutory instrument was inconsistent with the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.*

In response to part 1 of your request, the Ministry of Justice does not hold reporting on the average time-frame taken from receiving a claim relating to proposed legislation, to issuing a report in respect of such a claim. Therefore, I am refusing this part of your request as allowed by section 18(f) of the OIA as the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

In response to part 2 of your request, the Ministry of Justice does not hold reporting on the number of (and name of the) reports since 1990 in which the Waitangi Tribunal has found that a statutory instrument was inconsistent with the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi. Therefore, I am refusing this part of your request as allowed by section 18(f) of the OIA as the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

However, I can advise that all Waitangi Tribunal reports are publicly available and searchable online. These can be accessed at [forms.justice.govt.nz/search/WT/reports.html](http://forms.justice.govt.nz/search/WT/reports.html)

If you require any clarification of the information contained in this response please contact Jerram Watts, Acting Media Manager, by calling (04) 918 8980; or emailing [media@justice.govt.nz](mailto:media@justice.govt.nz)

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to complain to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the OIA. You can contact the Office of the Ombudsman by writing to PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143; calling 0800 802 602; or emailing [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz)

I trust that this information assists.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'BF', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Bruce Findlay  
**Group Manager (Acting), Courts and Tribunals, Regional Service Delivery**

Ref: 81266