

OIA20-0191

18 MAY 2020

John Luke  
fyi-request-12667-d2e7b033@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear John Luke

## **OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST**

Thank you for your email of 21 April 2020 requesting information relating to the appointment of Food Safety Officers. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

Following a request for clarification from a member of the OIA team, you confirmed you were seeking the following information:

*I would like to know who has been appointed to the role of food safety officers that is not employed in the State sector or by a territorial authority. Please provide me with the list of the person and the reasons for their appointment, and if there are conditions imposed on the appointment of a food safety officer that is not employed in the State sector or by a territorial authority.*

All Food Safety Officers have a direct employment contract with either a Territorial Authority, or New Zealand Food Safety, which is a business unit of the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) and, as such, there are no Food Safety Officers which are externally employed. As the role of Food Safety Officer is not a full-time position, individuals may also have other employment.

Food Safety Officers with an employment contract with territorial authorities will investigate non-compliance and complaints regarding the safety and suitability of foods. The investigations relate to food control plans or food businesses subject to national programmes for businesses registered by that territorial authority.

Food Safety Officers with an employment contract with New Zealand Food Safety will investigate complaints and non-compliance of businesses that are registered with MPI.

*grounds for believing that the information is held by another department or Minister of the Crown or organisation, or by a local authority.*

You have the right under section 28(3) of the OIA to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of our response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'DM', followed by a period.

Debbie Morris  
**Director Performance, Oversight & Approvals**