



03 July 2020

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John Luke

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fyi-request-13041-61ee5b2c@requests.fyi.org.nz

Website www.dia.govt.nz

Dear John

Official Information Act 1982 request 1920-0787

I refer to your request received by the Department of Internal Affairs (Department) on 5 June 2020. This response is provided to you under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

You requested—

I noted on the news - <https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/406541/marriage-celebrant-process-review-aims-to-reduce-number-of-celebrants>.

The results of the review will be announced in May. May I ask if the result been announced yet and if not, how far are we? Any updates on the review since the news was published?

Response

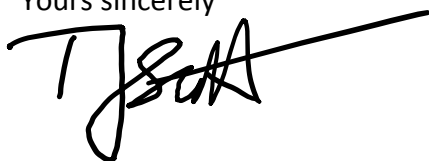
Thank you for your interest in the review, which is close to completion. While originally scheduled to finish by May 2020, the review has taken longer than originally expected. This was due to COVID-19 operational constraints and the fact that one element of the work (a survey of celebrants) took longer than anticipated to analyse due to the high response rate and detailed responses provided by 1706 independent celebrants, who provided 12,000 individual comments.

The Registrar-General intends to release a report which includes analysis of the survey and outcomes of the review. This will be available in the coming weeks and will be shared in an upcoming issue of the [Ngātahi newsletters](#) which is sent to celebrants. You can access the newsletter, and view issues going back to March 2016 on the '[Get celebrant training, support and information](#)' webpage at govt.nz.

If you would like more information about the survey findings, or have any concerns or suggestions about celebrant licensing you would like the Registrar-General to consider, please contact Jonathan Goode, via celebrantsreview@dia.govt.nz

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TJSA', with a long horizontal line extending to the right across the top of the signature.

Tiffany Scott
Manager Branch Development and Support
Service Delivery and Operations