

12 March 2021

Sean Marshall
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Tēnā koe Mr Marshall

Official Information Act 1982 request

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request of 12 February 2021 regarding the Trans-Tasman Occupations Tribunal (the Tribunal). I am responding as Group Manager, Courts and Tribunals, Regional Service Delivery.

Your request was for the following:

1. *Who is the chairperson of the tribunal?*
2. *Who is on the panel maintained under section 48 of Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act 1997?*
3. *How many cases has the tribunal heard since its inception by year?*
4. *Of those cases which the tribunal has heard, what local registration authorities were those cases brought against (please provide the number of cases per authority)?*

In response to questions 1 and 2, I can confirm the Chairperson of the Tribunal is her Honour Judge Allison Sinclair, and the members of the panel maintained under section 48 of the Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act 1997 are Martha Roche and Peter Fuiava.

In response to question 3, the Tribunal can hear proceedings by holding a hearing, or assessing and making a decision on the information provided without a hearing. Since the Tribunal's inception, all of the applications received have been withdrawn and subsequently closed without a hearing being held. At present there is one active case before the Tribunal.

In response to question 4, information regarding the details of individual cases is held by the Tribunal. Tribunals are not subject to the OIA under section 2(6)(b). This is because tribunals are independent of the executive branch of the government. I am therefore refusing this part of your request under section 18(g) of the OIA as this information is not held by the Ministry of Justice.

If you require any clarification of the information contained in this response please contact Alison Horwood, Media Manager, Media and External Relations, by calling (04) 918 8836; or emailing 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

I trust that this information assists.

Nāku noa, nā



Bruce Findlay
Group Manager, Courts and Tribunals, Regional Service Delivery

Ref: 85897

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