

7 May 2021

John Smith
fyi-request-15171-10b6400f@requests.fyi.org.nz

195 Lambton Quay
Private Bag 18-901
Wellington 6160
New Zealand

T +64 4 439 8000
F +64 4 472 9596

OIA 27394

Tēnā koe John Smith

I refer to your email of 14 April 2021 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

"I would like to request the full results of the referendums held in the Cook Islands on 24 March 1994 and 16 June 1999."

Full results of the referendums held in the Cook Islands on 24 March 1994 and 16 June 1999 are not held by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. However, a high level summary of the results is publicly available, and can be found in the journal article linked here, at page 142: <https://scholarspace.manoa.hawaii.edu/handle/10125/13022>

Your request is therefore refused under sections 18(d) and 18(g)(i) of the OIA.

A more detailed breakdown of the referendums will likely be held by the Government of the Cook Islands. The Cook Islands Government has no statutory obligation to report election results to New Zealand. Information held by the Government of the Cook Islands is also not covered under New Zealand's Official Information Act 1982, but eligible individuals are able to make information requests through the equivalent legislation in the Cook Islands. You can find more information about this process online at: <https://ombudsman.gov.ck/complaints/official-information-act-2009/>

If you are seeking this or other information about another government, you may wish to contact that government directly to obtain information. In this case, you can find the contact information for the relevant government agencies of the Cook Islands online at: <http://www.ck/govt2.htm>

You have the right under section 28(3) of the OIA to seek a review of this response by the Ombudsman.

Nāku noa, nā



Julie-Anne Lee
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade