



## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

25 May 2022

Saad Sheikh  
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Ref: OIA-2021/22-1303

Tēnā koe Saad Sheikh

### **Official Information Act request:[Sheikh] Platinum Jubilee plans**

Thank you for your Official Information Act request received on 30 April 2022. You requested:

*"I am writing to enquire about New Zealand's plans to commemorate the historic platinum jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of New Zealand. So far, all that's been announced is a donation of 1 million dollars to Trees That Count, a beacon lighting ceremony in Wellington scheduled for the central jubilee weekend in June, along with a special Jubilee emblem. The Queen is the first ever monarch of Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United Kingdom to achieve this historic milestone, as well as the first female monarch ever to reach 70 years on the throne. This is a monumental occasion that should be marked with appropriate splendour and celebration. The Queen's 7 decades of service to New Zealand should be honoured with pride, and her intrinsic place in the country's national fabric and cultural history acknowledged."*

Thank you for your continued interest in the planning for The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

As previously advised, the government has committed \$1 million to planting native trees across New Zealand to mark the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's accession to the throne. As part of this legacy project, the Department of Conservation, Trees that Count and Tapu o Tane will assist community groups, iwi and private landowners to plant 100,000 native trees at 15 exceptional native restoration sites across New Zealand. The planting programme echoes the Queen's Green Canopy scheme developed in the United Kingdom for the Platinum Jubilee celebrations, but specifies that New Zealand's native species will be eco-sourced and planted.

On 16 May 2022, the Chief Justice, Dame Helen Winkelmann, Hon Kiritapu Allen and Joris de Bres of Project Crimson, launched the project by planting a kauri in the grounds of Government House in Wellington. You can read more about the event [here](#) and find out more about the project and the proposed locations [here](#).

There will be announcements in the very near future about further ways in which New Zealand will mark this significant celebration.

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Accordingly, I decline the remainder of your request under section 18(d) of the Act, on the basis that the information requested is or will be soon publicly available, and under section 9(2)f(iv), to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

We do not intend to publish this response on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's website.

Nāku noa, nā



Michael Webster  
**Clerk of the Executive Council**