



22 June 2022

Attention: Andrew Li

By email: fyi-request-19449-11d329eb@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Andrew

OIA Request for information under the Official Information Act 1982
Our Ref: OIA353/1

We acknowledge receipt of your email of 24 May 2022 seeking all documents held by Crown Law that could relate to a decision to drop charges against William Gannin Ormsby for sexual violation and indecent assault, and assault with intent to commit sexual violation against a woman. We have treated your request as a request made under the Official Information Act 1982 (**OIA**).

Information held by Crown Law Office

Crown Law was not directly involved in the prosecution of Mr Ormsby. We can, however, confirm that Crown Law holds related files. We have treated some of the documents in those files as falling within the scope of your request.

Crown Law accepts it is subject to the OIA. However, in this case the information you have requested was largely generated as part of the office's Law Officer role and therefore falls outside the OIA.¹

Where the OIA does apply, the information is withheld as it is legally privileged (s 9(h)).

Without prejudice to that position, however, we can advise you that the charges you refer to were dismissed by the court due to insufficiency of evidence. We do not hold any information which would support your contention that Ms Mahuta had some involvement in the dismissal of those charges.

If you would like more information about the court case, you may apply to access the court record. An application form can be found at:

<https://www.justice.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Forms/MOJ0148.2-Sept-2021-Application-for-access-to-court-docs-updated-v0.6.pdf>.

¹ See for example: https://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz/sites/default/files/2019-03/335331_-_request_for_info_re_bain_compensation_claim.pdf and <https://www.crownlaw.govt.nz/about-us/law-officers/>.

Review of this decision

In accordance with s 19 of the OIA, you have a right to complain to the Ombudsman under s 28(3) of the OIA about this decision.

Yours faithfully

Crown Law

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J Mara', is written over a horizontal line.

J Mara
Crown Counsel