



## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

22 July 2022

John Luke  
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Ref: OIA-2021/22-1462

Tēnā koe John Luke

### **Official Information Act request: [Luke] Honours conferred**

Thank you for your Official Information Act request received on 29 June 2022. You requested:

*"I understand as per your website,  
<https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdpmc.govt.nz%2Four-programmes%2Fnew-zealand-royal-honours%2Fmake-nomination%2Fnominations-honours&data=05%7C01%7Cinformation%40dpmc.govt.nz%7C7470a0dca4654e7c190708da598b45d8%7Ceea6053309ef4b7a94060f38551cc613%7C0%7C0%7C637920752994906849%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljoimC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTil6lk1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C200%7C%7C%7C&sdata=dCLNIHwd0CP7WuYHBrfsxKMpXNBO7GqIFUfcTS DNzGs%3D&reserved=0>*

*The number of honours conferred in the regular honours lists total about 380 per annum.*

*However, it was Last updated:  
Friday, 1 April 2011*

*Which is 10+ years ago, may I confirm if this information still correct? Also, I understand you have the honours list available online, but I am wondering if you have the actual honours conferred number per honours round from 2018 to now. e.g. QB 2018, there are total of 150 honours conferred. It would be even better, if you have the status per category of honours, e.g. how many are QSM, how many are QSO etc*

*Also I would like to know the total nomination has been received and considered during the above period as well. What I try to work out is percentage of honours conferred per the percentage of nomination received. I don't think by sharing the number of total nomination received and consider will jeopardise anything. I hope my request can be consider and allow."*

In response to part one of your request, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's website contains Honours lists from 1995 to the present day, including the

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regular Queen's Birthday and New Year Honours Lists: <https://dpmc.govt.nz/our-programmes/new-zealand-royal-honours/honours-lists-and-recipients/honours-lists>

Since 2010, the size of the regular honours lists have ranged from 154 to 196 recipients. Please find below a breakdown of honours conferred, broken down into each list and level of honour from the New Year 2018 Honours List through to the most recently published Queen's Birthday and Platinum Jubilee Honours List 2022.

Please note New Zealand Bravery Awards and the New Zealand Antarctic Medal conferred in the regular honours lists during this period have been classed under 'other'. There have been other Bravery Awards during this period, but they were published on Special Lists, not the regular honours lists, and are therefore not within scope of your request.

In the table below, Knights Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit and Dames Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit have been grouped together under 'K/DNZM'.

	ONZ	GNZM	K/DNZM	CNZM	ONZM	MNZM	QSO	QSM	DSD	Other	Total
NY2018	1		7	8	29	62	10	61	1		179
QB2018			8	8	37	64	3	69	1	2	192
NY2019		1	8	11	23	79	4	65	3	2	196
QB2019			7	10	20	55	2	86	3		183
NY2020			6	16	36	61	2	58	1		180
QB2020			5	12	35	68	1	56	1		178
NY2021	2		7	15	29	56	2	41	1	1	154
QB2021			8	12	33	64	6	45	2		170
NY2022			6	14	40	64	4	53	2		183
QB2022	2		6	8	40	70	8	52		1	187
Total	5	1	68	114	322	643	42	586	15	6	1802

In response to part two of your request, we receive around 800 to 1,000 nominations every year. Protecting the confidentiality of material about Honours nominations and appointments is essential to maintaining the integrity of the New Zealand Royal Honours system. In particular, the protection of such information ensures that those engaging with the Honours system can rely on the confidentiality of the process.

Successive Ombudsmen have considered that information relating to the Royal Honours system may be withheld under the Official Information Act because there is a strong public interest in the protection of the confidentiality of the Royal Honours process.

Accordingly, I am withholding the exact number of nominations considered for each list between 2018 to present under the following sections of the Act:

- s 9(2)(ba)(ii) to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence and to make it available would be likely to otherwise damage the public interest;

- s 9(2)(f)(iv) to maintain the constitutional conventions that 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.

This response will be published on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's website during our regular publication cycle. Typically, information is released monthly, or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

Nāku noa, nā

*RJ Hayward*

Rachel Hayward  
**Acting Clerk of the Executive Council**