



2 August 2022

S.I

By email: fyi-request-19847-19af8747@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear S.I

Official information request for written guidelines

Our Ref: OIA353/1

1. I refer to your official information request dated 7 July 2022:

Please provide any written guidelines (or other rules, etc) that are taken into account by Crown Law when they determine whether to initiate or continue civil proceedings by and against the crown. Please provide any reference documents in relation to civil bill of rights claims & defamation proceedings.

Please include information summarising the factors/criteria applied by Crown Law when they determine whether to initiate or continue civil proceedings by and against the crown.
2. The written guidelines applied to our conduct of litigation on behalf of the Crown are largely set out in internal professional standards. We have **attached** the following documents:
 - 2.1 Defamation proceedings policy
 - 2.2 Appeals policy
 - 2.3 Settlement policy
 - 2.4 Intervention policy
 - 2.5 Service of civil proceedings guidelines
 - 2.6 Filing of proceedings policy
 - 2.7 The Crown Law litigation policy
3. The Cabinet Directions for the conduct of Crown Legal Business and the Attorney General's values are publicly available documents but we have included them for completeness.
4. We have included an index that sets out a full list of the professional standards at Crown Law so you will see the standards that we have not included, because they did not appear to relate to your request. If you wish to see any of the other documents please make a further request.

Proactive release

5. Please note that we may publish this response (with your personal details redacted), and any related documents, on Crown Law's website if we decide proactive release of this information is or may be in the public interest. If you have any concerns about this, please let us know within 10 working days of the date of this letter.
6. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.
7. If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact me.

Yours faithfully

Crown Law

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of the initials 'AP' followed by a long horizontal line.

Austin Powell
Senior Crown Counsel

Encl

1. Defamation proceedings policy
2. Appeals policy
3. Settlement policy
4. Intervention policy
5. Service of civil proceedings guidelines
6. Filing of proceedings
7. The Crown Law litigation policy
8. The AG civil litigation values
9. The Cabinet Directions for the conduct of Crown Legal Business and the Attorney General's values
10. Table of policy and guidelines