



File No. DOIA 2223-0111

16 August 2022

M Zwart

[fyi-request-19931-112825cf@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-19931-112825cf@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear M Zwart

Thank you for your email of 16 July 2022 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA):

*Under the Official Information Act, we would like to submit you a list of selected Business Industry Classification (BIC) codes to acquire the following information.*

- a) BIC Code
- b) BIC Descriptor
- c) Company Status e.g. Removed / Registered / Liquidation
- d) Company Legal Name and/or Partnership
- e) Company Registration Number (7-Digits)
- f) NZBN
- g) Director/s and/or Owner/s of the business
- h) Trading Name
- i) Contact Details
  - a. Email
  - b. Phone
- j) Full Address Details (Unit and Street Number, Street Name, Suburb, City, Post Code)
  - a. Physical Location
  - b. Postal Address

*Please advise if we're able to email you our list of selected BIC codes.*

On 18 July 2022, we emailed to ask you to supply the list of Business Industry Classification (BIC) codes and we received the list from you on 20 July 2022. On 22 July 2022, we wrote to inform you that we were extending the timeframe of your request to 22 August 2022, which was an extension of 6 working days.

Attached are two separate files of data for companies, partnerships and sole traders that have indicated their BIC code when they were issued with a New Zealand Business Number (NZBN).

The caveats and limitations of the data are set out below.

1. Only companies, partnerships and sole traders that have voluntarily provided their BIC codes are included in the list.
2. Partnerships and sole traders which have provided their BIC code but have elected to make their BIC code private are excluded from the list.

3. Only information which is publicly available on the companies register and the NZBN register is included. Privacy flags are displayed where necessary.

Company information, such as telephone numbers and email addresses, unless publicly available on the NZBN tab on the company's summary page on the companies register, has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA to protect the privacy of natural persons.

In terms of section 9(1) of the OIA, I am satisfied that, in the circumstances, the withholding of this information is not outweighed by other considerations that render it desirable to make the information available in the public interest.

Your request for information relating to partnerships and sole traders is partially refused under section 18(c)(i) of the OIA, as the making available of the information requested would be contrary to the provisions of the New Zealand Business Number Act 2016 (the Act). Under section 24(1) of the Act, the Registrar is required to keep and operate the NZBN register in a manner that allows members of the public to access and search public primary business data only. For partnerships and sole traders, the public primary business data that is available is their trading area, their NZBN, the kind of entity, the status, industry classification, website, and any other primary business data that the NZBN entity elects to make publicly available. Under section 26 of the Act, private data may only be released by the Registrar to a third party if the NZBN entity consents to that release.

In future, please submit similar information requests through the Companies Office's Data Services page at <https://www.companiesoffice.govt.nz/data-services/request-data/>.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of my decision to withhold information relating to this request, in accordance with section 28(3) of the OIA. The relevant details can be found at: [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Bolen Ng', written in a cursive style.

**Bolen Ng**  
National Manager, Business Registries