

20 November 2014.

Mr Anthony Jordan
<mailto:fyi-request-2146-2ff2080c@requests.fyi.org.nz>

Dear Mr Jordan

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your Official Information Act request of 31 October 2014, asking ACC to confirm the position of Dr John Collier with regards to Peer Reviewing assessments.

The following response is made pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

Dr John Collier holds the contract for Impairment Assessment Services and is also an Impairment Assessment Peer Reviewer. This means that he peer reviews Impairment Assessments but he also carries out Impairment Assessments which will be reviewed by another Peer Reviewer.

As per ACC's previous response to you 28 January 2014, where a potential conflict of interest is identified, it is ACC's practice to refer the client to another assessor. The Corporation expects that an assessor would never review a case on which they have provided an external assessment.

It is also important to note that in addition to ACC's own code of conduct, clinical practitioners, including BMAs, are bound by their own professional codes of conduct. These establish acceptable ethical practices for practitioners. Professional codes include a requirement that all registered medical practitioners declare any conflicts of interest or previous dealings, in any capacity, with an ACC client, or their claim file. If a medical practitioner is found to have breached their respective professional code of conduct, the governing body can impose sanctions on the practitioner (please refer to ACC's previous response of 28 January 2014).

If you have any questions about the information provided, ACC will be happy to work with you to resolve these. You can contact the Government Services Team via email at GovernmentServices@acc.co.nz

Yours sincerely
Government Services