

19 June 2023

Luke  
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Ref: OIA 105079

Tēnā koe Luke

**Official Information Act request: Ministry of Justice's te reo Māori name and branding**

Thank you for your email of 3 June 2023, requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), information relating to the Ministry of Justice's (the Ministry) te reo Māori name and branding.

Please find the Ministry's responses to each part of your request below.

- 1. Does the Ministry of Justice intend to redesign its branding, logo or advertising and change its English name from "Ministry of Justice" to "Te Tahu o Te Ture | Ministry of Justice" in line with other government departments?*
- 2. Does the Ministry intend to adopt a new bilingual name? If so, will the Ministry be encouraged to refer to the agency by its Maori name only (similar to "Waka Kotahi" or "Te Whataua Ora")?*

Te Tāhū o te Ture is the te reo Māori name for the Ministry. This name was bestowed on the Ministry by its kaumātua at the time, Tā John Clarke, after discussions and deliberation with other kaumātua. It was adopted by the Ministry in 2003, following the merger of the Ministry and former Department of Courts.

Both the "Ministry of Justice" and "Te Tāhū o Te Ture" names are currently used interchangeably. There are no current plans to change the logo or the approach to branding and advertising.

- 3. Will the Ministry adopt a new web address and replace justice.govt.nz with a redirect URL?*

There are no plans to adopt a new web address to replace www.justice.govt.nz.

- 4. Please release all relevant email correspondence between the Ministry of Justice and the Chief Operating Officer, Secretary for Justice, Kiri Allan, Rino Tirikatene, Public Service Commissioner, Minister for the Public Service and the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet regarding renaming the Ministry of Justice.*

This part of your request is refused under section 18(e) of the Act, as the information does not exist.

5. *Please release all relevant email correspondence between the above mentioned persons, and also the Judicial Committees and Chief Justice regarding renaming the Courts and Tribunals.*

This part of your request is likewise refused under section 18(e) of the Act, as the information does not exist. Many New Zealand courts already have and use te reo Māori names (eg, Te Kōti Mana Nui for the Supreme Court) on, for example, their websites. Some specialist courts and jurisdictions also have te reo Māori words in their names, such as the Waitangi Tribunal. There are no current plans to rename any courts and tribunals.

6. *Please also release any relevant advice for renaming the Courts and the Ministry of Justice.*

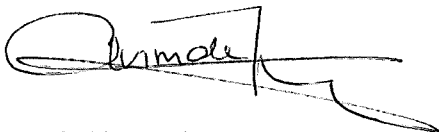
For the reasons already given, this part of your request is refused under section 18(e) of the Act, as the information does not exist.

If you require any further information, please contact Media and Social Media Manager Joe Locke at [media@justice.govt.nz](mailto:media@justice.govt.nz).

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website at: [justice.govt.nz/about/official-information-act-requests/oia-responses](https://justice.govt.nz/about/official-information-act-requests/oia-responses).

You have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act. The Office of the Ombudsman may be contacted by email at [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by phone on 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



Anouk Alexander  
Deputy Secretary, Strategy, Governance and Finance