

19 February 2024

REF: OIA 84945

Tim Herewini

By email: fyi-request-25458-6ae85f27@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Tim

Request for Official Information: Whakatōhea

Thank you for your correspondence of 21 January 2024 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

- a) all information held by Te Arawhiti in the date range 18 August 2017 to 21 January 2024 touching on Te Whakatōhea that is not available on Te Arawhiti's website.

Due to the substantial amount of work that would be required to research and collate the information you have requested, we are refusing your request under section 18(f) of the OIA. Our initial scoping shows the request includes more than 40,000 documents and responding would have a significant impact on Te Arawhiti's other operations.

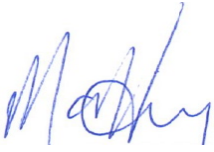
On 30 January we wrote to you advising that your request was likely to be declined under s18(f) of the OIA due to the substantial collation and research required and inviting you to refine your request to specify information you are looking for, and/or focus on a narrower date range. We did not receive a response.

As noted in the letter of 30 January the Whakatōhea settlement negotiations have been subject to two Waitangi Tribunal inquiries, a further urgency application in the Waitangi Tribunal, as well as High Court litigation. As such, many documents that fall within scope of your request have been released either as part of discovery or under the OIA and are already in the public domain.

After considering our response to your request, we can advise that it will not be published on our website.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about this process is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or phone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Maureen Hickey', with a stylized circular flourish in the middle.

Maureen Hickey
Regional Director, Te Tira Kahukura