

17 April 2024

James
fyi-request-26249-6661f2da@requests.fyi.org.nz

REF: OIA-15020

Dear James

Request made under the Official Information Act 1982

Thank you for your email of 27 March 2024 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

How many, if any, dispensations have been requested and granted to allow rainbow pedestrian crossing to be painted/installed?

How many rainbow crossings are there in NZ? Please provide each location.

Given that red and pink are recognised by the NZTA as causing issues for visually impaired drivers, please provide all communications and documentation surrounding the approval of these colours in rainbow crossings.

The New Zealand Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) has not granted any dispensations for rainbow crossings, nor does it hold a record of how many there are in New Zealand. There is also no correspondence held on the colours used in these installations. We are therefore refusing your request under section 18(e) of the Act because the requested information does not exist.

The installations referred to as “rainbow crossings” may be considered roadway art and are managed through the *Traffic Control Devices Rule* (which was updated in 2023).

Under section 5.6 of the Rule, roadway art can be installed if it:

- Does not resemble and is not similar to a marking described in the Rule, and
- Does not mislead road users about the meaning of any traffic control device, and
- Is installed in a lower risk environment, and;
- Is not part of a specified marking

Further information on the Rule can be found at:

www.nzta.govt.nz/assets/resources/rules/docs/traffic-control-devices-2004-as-at-21-august-2023.pdf.

Responsibility for installing roadway art rests with the relevant road controlling authority (RCA) which is the relevant council for local roads and New Zealand Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) for state highways. Concerns about a particular installation should be directed to the relevant RCA.

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.

If you would like to discuss this reply with NZTA, please contact us, by email to official.correspondence@nzta.govt.nz

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Rodley', written in a cursive style.

Chris Rodley
National Manager Regulatory System Design