



15 May 2024

John Luke  
fyi-request-26631-d254a57f@requests.fyi.org.nz

45 Pipitea Street, Thorndon, Wellington 6011  
PO Box 805, Wellington  
Phone 04 495 7200  
Email [OIA@dia.govt.nz](mailto:OIA@dia.govt.nz)  
Website [dia.govt.nz](http://dia.govt.nz)

Tēnā koe John,

### **Your Official Information Act 1982 request, reference OIA 2324-0938**

I am responding to your email of 5 May 2024 to Te Tari Taiwhenua | the Department of Internal Affairs (the Department) requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*I noted, you have recently call for nomination for your Chinese Poll Tax Heritage Trust [...] May I ask how you called for public nomination and on what platform you have call for public nominations e.g. govt.jobs website. Also, how many applications you have received from the public and how many you have received from other nominating agencies such as TPK or Ministry of women etc for your role. How many you have shortlisted and how many you have interviewed.*

### **Response to your request**

On 21 March 2024, the Department opened a call for nominations for the Chinese Poll Tax Heritage Trust (the Trust) and advertised positions on its website at: [www.dia.govt.nz/Appointments-to-Statutory-Bodies](http://www.dia.govt.nz/Appointments-to-Statutory-Bodies).

On 25 March, the Department sought nominations from the Ministry for Ethnic Communities. We also sought nominations from several Chinese community organisations and advertised the roles in Chinese newspapers, such as the Chinese Herald Limited and the New Zealand South Island Chinese Newspaper Limited. The Minister for Ethnic Communities also sought nominations from parliamentary colleagues.

Applications for the Trust closed on 19 April 2024. The Department received 17 applications and is in the process of shortlisting applicants. I am therefore refusing your request for the numbers of shortlisted and interviewed candidates under section 18(g) of the Act, as the information requested does not exist.

Of the 17 applications, one was received from the Ministry for Ethnic Communities, and the remaining candidates learned of the vacancies from Chinese community groups, the Appointments to Statutory Bodies page on our website, or by word of mouth.

### **Accessing the Ombudsman**

You have the right, under section 28 of the Act, to seek an investigation and review of this decision by the Office of the Ombudsman. Information on how to make a complaint is available at: [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz). The postal address is PO Box 10152, Wellington. Alternatively, you can phone 0800 802 602 or email [info@ombudsman.parliament.govt.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.govt.nz).

**Proactive release**

We intend to publish our response to your request on [www.dia.govt.nz](http://www.dia.govt.nz). This letter, with your personal details removed, will be published in its entirety. Publishing responses increases the availability of information to the public and is consistent with the Act's purpose of enabling more effective participation in the making and administration of laws and policies and promoting the accountability of Ministers and officials.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeremy Cauchi". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jeremy Cauchi  
**Director Ministerial, Monitoring, and Capability**