

5 July 2024

Harris Leigh

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Tēnā koe Harris

Official Information Act (OIA) request: Copies of emails and messages between Mark Sowden and Doug Craig

On 6 June 2024, you contacted Stats NZ requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

Under the OIA I seek copies of all emails, sms messages, WhatsApp, Signal, Telegram, Viber or other similar messages exchanged between the Mr Mark Sowden, Chief Executive of Stats NZ and Mr Doug Craig since Mr Sowden's appointment as Chief Executive in January 2020.

If there quantum of messages falling within the scope of this request makes compilation within the statutory timeframe, please provide the total number of such messages per year and an estimate of when it would be feasible to provide copies of the documents requested.

Please see attached a copy of all emails and messages sent between Mark Sowden and Doug Craig between 1 January 2020 and 6 June 2024.

You will note that the names, phone numbers and email addresses of some individuals are withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act in order to protect the privacy of natural persons. The need to protect the privacy of these individuals outweighs the public interest in this information.

Should you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact Stats NZ at: OfficeoftheGSCE@stats.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

It is Stats NZ's policy to proactively release its responses to official information requests where possible. This letter, with your personal details removed, will be published on the Stats NZ website. Publishing responses creates greater openness and transparency of government decision-making and helps better inform public understanding of the reasons for decisions.

Nāku noa, nā



Kate Satterthwaite
Deputy Chief Executive and Chief of Staff
Office of the Chief Executive
Stats NZ