

29 July 2024

Mason Helm
fyi-request-27448-9ade9ea9@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mason

I refer to your email of 1 July 2024 requesting information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), as follows:

Please provide:

a) the PIA relating to the provision of Loan-Level data to the Reserve Bank of New Zealand. This PIA contains discussion on why the data given under a unique numerical identifier is not considered personal information under the Privacy Act; and

b) any material held that indicates any processes, practices, or procedures that allow the unique identifier to be de-anonymised (via a name or other identifiable characteristic). This part of the request includes internal or external request process (such as seeking further data from a financial institution).

Part b may be answered by providing a list of processes rather than a substantial response.

Response

Privacy assessments, and the policy, processes and procedures pertaining to such assessments, contain sensitive information relating to RBNZ's operations. Should the information be shared, it could be misused or give someone an improper advantage. For example, this could compromise the security of the personal information, including access, by opening up RBNZ to malicious attacks on our network and systems. As this information relates to the receipt, use and storage of personal information, it is crucial the RBNZ maintains security around these policy areas.

In light of the above, your request is refused under section 9(2)(k) of the OIA, to prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage.

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

Please note that we intend to publish a copy of this response on the RBNZ website at www.rbnz.govt.nz/research-and-publications/official-information-requests. Responses to requests are published in order to improve public transparency and provide an additional resource for anyone seeking information.

Yours sincerely

Government and Industry Relations
Reserve Bank of New Zealand – Te Pūtea Matua