

Hon Paul Goldsmith

Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage
Minister of Justice
Minister for Media and Communications
Minister for State Owned Enterprises
Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations



7 October 2024

Ezra Talmud
fyi-request-28325-21d40a37@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Ezra

Official Information Act request: Freemasons

Thank you for your request of 7 September 2024 under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Specifically, you sought:

I request to know how many Freemasons in New Zealand hold public service positions and out of the ones that do, how many of them hold significant public service positions i.e party leaders and their advisors, high ranking positions in our judicial system, monetary system, health system, education system, high ranking positions in the Police and NZDF.

I am not aware of any agency that maintains lists of how many people are members of specific non-governmental groups (e.g., clubs, charities, political or religious groups and advocacy organisations) and the roles they hold. I am refusing your request under section 18(g) of the Act on the grounds that the information sought is not held by me and I have no reason to believe it is held by any other Minister or agency subject to the Act.

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Office of the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phone on 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Paul Goldsmith'.

Hon Paul Goldsmith
Minister of Justice