



13 November 2024

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Tēnā koe Alan

### Your Official Information Act request, reference OIA2425-0367

I am responding to your email of 15 October 2024 to the Department of Internal Affairs (the Department), requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*I would like to know who the current members of the Rata Foundation are, appointed by the Minister, and to understand the most recent appointments process (how it was advertised, number of applicants, selection process, appointments made).*

### Response to your request

Information about the current members of the Rātā Foundation (the Foundation) is available on the Foundation's website, at [ratafoundation.org.nz/en/about/our-people/](http://ratafoundation.org.nz/en/about/our-people/).

Appointments to the Foundation are made by the Associate Minister of Finance, Hon Shane Jones, who is delegated the role by the Minister of Finance, Hon Nicola Willis. The appointments follow guidance on appointments from the Cabinet Office, the Public Service Commission, and The Treasury. This guidance is available via the following websites:

- Cabinet Office guidance: [www.dpmc.govt.nz/publications/appointments-process](http://www.dpmc.govt.nz/publications/appointments-process).
- Public Service Commission guidance: [publicservice.govt.nz/guidance/guide-board-appointment-and-induction-guidelines](http://publicservice.govt.nz/guidance/guide-board-appointment-and-induction-guidelines).
- Treasury guidance: [treasury.govt.nz/information-and-services/commercial-portfolio-and-advice/board-appointments](http://treasury.govt.nz/information-and-services/commercial-portfolio-and-advice/board-appointments).

When making the appointments, the Minister considers the skills and experiences identified by the Community Trust Act 1998, the trust's deed, and any specific skill gaps for the appointment round. The Minister will then appoint trustees to meet those needs.

Appointments are then considered by the Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee and confirmed by Cabinet. The Minister then writes to the new trustees and trusts confirming the appointment.

For the 2024 appointment round, the criteria for the Foundation were made available in the candidate information sheet attached as **Appendix A**.

The vacancies were advertised on Seek, Stuff Careers, the Department of Internal Affairs' (the Department) appointments and vacancies webpages, and the NZ Government Jobs website. The Minister also sought nominations from his caucus colleagues. The Department received 17 nominations for appointment.

The 2024 appointments have yet to be confirmed but will be announced on the Foundation's, and the Department's websites when made.

### **Access to the Ombudsman**

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of my response by the Office of the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

### **Proactive release**

I 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, appearing to read 'Anita Balakrishnan', written in a cursive style.

Anita Balakrishnan  
**Director Ministerial and Monitoring**