

21 December 2016

Dave Stone

Email: fyi-request-5012-dc51d2ad@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Stone.

Thank you for your email, received 24 November 2016, requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information regarding why you have been selected for a Statistics NZ survey:

- Detailed outline of the criteria used for selection purposes?
- Why have we been selected?
- Why does Statistics New Zealand need to know such detailed information about us?
- What safe guards are in place to protect this information?
- Who gets to see/use this information?
- What privacy rights do I have to object/refuse to provide any information sought?
- If I refuse to participate, what will happen?

The detailed outline of the criteria used for selection purposes and how individuals are selected can be found on Statistics NZ's website at <u>Information about our surveys</u>. It will provide you with information about the survey you have been selected to participate in and includes information about:

- why the survey is carried out
- who takes part in the survey
- how you were selected
- how often the survey is carried out
- how the survey questionnaire can be completed
- links to samples of the survey questionnaire and results of the survey.

Statistics NZ conducts surveys to produce vital information and statistics that will inform decisions by government, businesses and New Zealanders.

Your privacy is important to us. Statistics NZ is committed to keeping your information completely secure and confidential. You can find out more about the safe guards Statistics NZ puts in place to protect information and who can use the information here.

The information collected by Statistics NZ is very important to New Zealand and participation is a requirement, mandated through the Statistics Act 1975. If you refuse to provide any information sought, or refuse to participate in the survey, Statistics NZ has statutory powers permitting it to take legal action. You can find our

legal obligations on our <u>website</u>. However, we know most people take part willingly, especially if they understand the value of what they're contributing to and the process is as easy as possible.

You have the right, by way of complaint to the Office of the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act, to seek an investigation and review of this response to your request.

Statistics NZ intends to publish its response to your request made under the Act on the Statistics NZ website. This letter, with your personal details removed, will be published in its entirety. Consistent with the Act, publishing responses increases the availability of information to the public and helps promote balanced public debate.

Peter Dolan

Senior Manager, Strategic Support