



**Te Tari Taiwhenua
Internal Affairs**

23 October 2018

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Mick Hall

RNZ

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Dear Mick Hall

Official Information Request OIA18/19-0205

Thank you for your email of 1 October 2018 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

“any and all correspondence between Sir Anand Satyanand, Chairman of the Royal Commission into Historical Abuse in State Care, and the Catholic Church, those representing the Church, or any other based-based [faith-based] organisations, including Anglican and Methodist denominations.”

The Department of Internal Affairs (the Department) does not hold the information you have requested. The information may be held by the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Historical Abuse in State Care (the Royal Commission). However, it is important to note, the Royal Commission operates independently of the Department.

Under section 2(6)(ea) of the Act, inquiries (such as the Royal Commission) are not considered departments or organisations for the purposes of the Act. This provision excludes the Royal Commission from being subject to the Act. Consequently, your request to the Department is refused under section 18(g)(i) of the Act. This provides that a request may be refused if the information requested is not held by the Department and there are no grounds for believing the information is held by another department, Minister of the Crown, organisation, or local authority.

Although not legally subject to the Act, the Royal Commission may choose to respond to questions or requests for information if it deems appropriate. You may wish to contact the Royal Commission directly to request this information. You can contact the Royal Commission by email at abuseinstatecare@royalcommission.govt.nz, by post at PO Box 10071, the Terrace, Wellington 6143 or by phone on 0800 222 727.

If you are dissatisfied with this response you have the right to seek an investigation and review of this decision by an Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act. The contact address is: Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143. You can also phone 0800 802 602 or send an email to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Yours sincerely

Karen Hope-Cross

Karen Hope-Cross
Director Operational Services
Department of Internal Affairs