



Prime Minister

Minister for Arts, Culture & Heritage

Minister for Child Poverty Reduction

Minister for National Security & Intelligence

- 4 MAR 2019

George Dawes
fyi-request-9528-af15867b@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: PMO 006-2019

Dear George Dawes

Official Information Act request relating to food handling certificate practices at the Prime Minister's events

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request, received on 6 February 2019. You requested:

*"...How many times have you served food to the general public, please include details of where, when and to how many people.
Do you hold a current food handlers certificate?
What advice have you or your office received regarding compliance with the Food Act of 2014?
Please provide copies of any Food Control plans you have in place while serving food to the general public."*

In relation to the first part of your request, the Prime Minister attends a large number of events where food is served. We do not hold records of every occasion where she has assisted with serving food. The Prime Minister does host a breakfast each year on Waitangi Day as part of the celebrations; the last two years this has taken the form of a barbecue, and numbers attending have not been limited or tracked.

In relation to your remaining queries, high hygiene standards are maintained for community events the Prime Minister attends. However, events such as the recent Waitangi Day barbecue are exempted from the Food Act 2014 requirements regarding registration and food control plans. The Prime Minister's Office has not received formal written advice on the requirements of the Food Act 2014, but you can find more information about these requirements on the Ministry for Primary Industries' website here: <https://www.mpi.govt.nz/food-safety/food-act-2014/fundraising-and-community-events/>

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mike Munro'.

Mike Munro
Chief of Staff