



05 JUL 2021

Tēnā koe

On 4 June 2021, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information relating to Privacy Act requests made to the Ministry:

- (a) The total number of Privacy Act requests made by Cooper Legal on behalf of clients of Cooper Legal, received by the Ministry of Social Development between 1 June 2019 and 1 June 2021;*
- (b) The total number of all other Privacy Act requests, excluding those referred to in paragraph (a), received by the Ministry of Social Development between 1 June 2019 and 1 June 2021;*
- (c) In relation to the Privacy Act requests referred to in paragraph (a), the average length of time taken by the Ministry of Social Development to release the information to the requester;*
- (d) In relation to the Privacy Act requests referred to in paragraph (b), the average length of time taken by the Ministry of Social Development to release the information to the requester;*
- (e) The average number of pages of information released by the Ministry of Social Development, for the Privacy Act requests referred to in paragraph (a); and*
- (f) The average number of pages of information released the Ministry of Social Development, for the Privacy Act requests referred to in paragraph (b).*

On 17 June 2021, we contacted you to advise that your request was very broad and that your request would likely be refused under 18(f) of the Act, as substantial manual collation would be required to provide the information requested. We refined your request to provide only the requested information relating to the Historic Claims unit of the Ministry. We also noted that we could only provide the number of pages assessed (rather than released) in relation to parts (e) and (f) of your request. You agreed to refine your request accordingly.

In response to your request, the Ministry has provided the following two tables:

Table One: Privacy Act requests made by Cooper Legal on behalf of clients of Cooper Legal between 1 June 2019 and 1 June 2021

Total number of Privacy Act requests received	723
Average length of time taken by Historic Claims to release the information to the requestor	77.8 working days
Average number of pages assessed by Historic Claims	1208 pages

Table Two: Privacy Act requests made by all other requestors between 1 June 2019 and 1 June 2021

Total number of Privacy Act requests received	700
Average length of time taken by Historic Claims to release the information to the requestor	85.7 working days
Average number of pages assessed by Historic Claims	1147 pages

Notes:

- Where Cooper Legal have made Privacy Act requests and requested that these are sent directly to the client, these are counted as "Cooper Legal" requests given that they are the request source.
- The average length of time taken by Historic Claims to release information to the requestor are calculated as the number of working days taken to internally complete the request, in order to provide a more comparable average between "Cooper Legal" requests and "other" requests. Historic Claims has a direct system for delivery with Cooper Legal, whereas additional time may be required to contact other requestors (such as direct claimants) to confirm how they wish to receive their information.

The principles and purposes of the Act under which you made your request are:

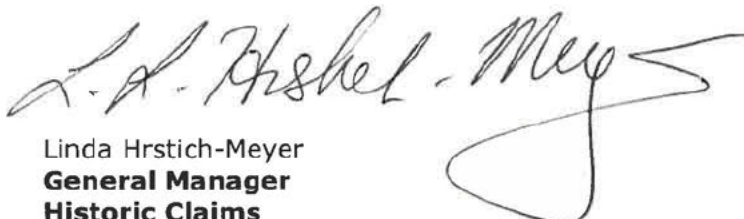
- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter and any attached documents available to the wider public. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter on the Ministry of Social Development's website. Your personal details will be deleted and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with this response regarding Privacy Act requests, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui



Linda Hrstich-Meyer
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Historic Claims