

Information on OIA requests received

Date: 10 September 2021

About: OIA Response to request of information on OIA Requests Received

Author: Ministry for Culture and Heritage

This document has been proactively released.

Some parts of this response would not be appropriate to release and, if requested, would be withheld under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA). Where this is the case, the relevant sections of the OIA that would apply have been identified. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

Information is current as at the date supplied to the requestor.

17 September 2021

9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe 9(2)

I refer to your request received on 10 September 2021, which has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), for information relating to responses to requests for information. Please find a response to each part of your request below.

1) From 1 January to 30 June 2021, how many OIA requests did your agency receive?

The Ministry received 76 requests in the period requested.

2) From 1 January to 30 June 2021, what was the average OIA response time (including any extension time)?

Of the requests that were responded to in the period noted (*acknowledging that some requests may have been received in the period but responded to later than June 30 2021*) the average response time was 20 working days.

It should be noted that the Ministry does not frequently record or capture this information. In this instance, the information was collated by tallying the information held in our tracking spreadsheet (specifically comparing the due date with the date a decision was provided).

3) From 1 January to 30 June 2021, what was the longest OIA response time (including any extension time)?

52 working days.

4) From 1 January to 30 June 2021, what percentage of OIAs required a time extension?

34.4%.

5) From 1 January to 30 June 2021, what percentage of OIAs were refused?

6) From 1 January to 30 June 2021, what percentage of OIAs were partially refused or redacted?

For questions 5 & 6, the Ministry does not capture this information in a centralised location as detailed in our response to question 2. In this instance, given the number of requests, the Ministry has manually reviewed each of the OIA responses to find this information.

Of the requests that were responded to in the period noted, 40.6% of requests were partially refused. It is important to note that, of the requests that were partially refused, 26.9% were redacted using section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons *only*. The most common usage of this ground being phone numbers or contact information. In these instances, the remainder of the requested documentation was typically supplied in full. This means only a small amount of information released was actually redacted.

As you are likely aware, the use of a 'refusal' ground is not exclusive to information being withheld. 'Refused' requests also include instances where (for example): Information is publicly available, is not held by an agency, or does not exist. The percentage of requests refused in full within this period was 4.7%. In each of these cases, the reasoning behind this is that the information was, or was soon to be publicly available (section 18(d) of the OIA).

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact oia@mch.govt.nz.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

Keegan Platten
Pou Arataki o Te Pae Hāpai Minita
Manager, Ministerial Services

Released under the Official Information Act 1982