

8 November 2021

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST 2021/39

On 28 October 2021 and 2 November 2021 you made requests under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). Your questions and the Commission's responses are set out below:

1. *There have been recent media statements were about a candidate in the last election possibly a Billy Te Kahika (Unsure) being involved in court proceedings. Do you have any knowledge of this matter please? If so, please provide it quickly.*

The Commission is not able to comment on matters with Police or before the courts. This aspect of your request is therefore refused under s 6(c) of the OIA. You may wish to direct questions to the New Zealand Police.

2. *As you have advised that you don't have the records of previous election returns concerning myself twice on behalf of the New Zealand Labour Party in the 1990's can you please tell me who may have them or even perhaps provide the contact details of the previous holding body?*

In relation to candidate returns from the 1990s, candidate returns were required to be disposed of after two general elections under the legislation at the time. Accordingly, this aspect of your request is refused under s 18(e) of the OIA as the information does not exist.

3. *The next hearing date of my current matter is Monday 8th November 2021. Do you want to attend or adjourn please?*

The Commission is not aware of the proceedings you mention, and does not consider that it needs to be involved.

4. *I herein request any and all correspondence with due particularity including committing verbal discussions with the new General Secretary Rob Salmond and Assistant General Secretary Diana Lacy to paper as well as providing copies of the formalised communications.*

We have interpreted this as relating to yourself, your prior candidacy, or the court proceedings you mention as involving yourself and the Labour Party. The Commission does not hold any information that falls within this scope. Accordingly, this part of your request is refused under s 18(e) of the OIA as the information requested does not exist.

5. *I herein also request copies of [various 2014 candidate returns].*

This part of your request is refused under s 18(d) of the OIA as the information is publicly available. All returns from the 2014 General Election are available online here:

https://www.elections.nz/democracy-in-nz/historical-events/2020-general-election-and-referendums/candidate-expenses-and-donations-for-the-2020-general-election/?Year=2014&Electorate=&Party=&action_filter=Apply

6. *Information received today makes it necessary to add the following official Informations*

Requests: the electoral returns for

The 2008 Elections for David Coates

The 2011 Election Return for Jo McLean

The 2017 Election Returns for Tony Condon

The 2020 Election Return for Reuben Davison

I recall you advised that your organisation had only taken over from a predecessor

It should be a simple matter for you to provide names and contact details prior to you organisation so I can approach them

Returns from the 2011 General Election onwards are publicly available on our website as above. The 2008 return for David Coates is released in full and is attached.

The predecessor to the Electoral Commission no longer exists. Accordingly, contact details are not available and this aspect of your request is refused under s 18(e) of the OIA.

You have the right under section 28(3) of the Act to make a complaint to the Ombudsman if you are not satisfied with the response to your requests.

Yours sincerely



Kristina Temel
Manager, Legal and Policy