

15 March 2023

s 9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe s 9(2)(a)

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

I refer to your official information request of **Wednesday 15 February** for:

Dear Ministry for Women,

Thank you for your recent reply,

<https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffyi.org.nz%2Frequest%2F21639-recognising-women-oia%23incoming-81882&data=05%7C01%7CLaura.Atiga%40women.govt.nz%7C70102e732c034b29f6cc08db0f904d57%7Ca8511a5e080444af97df0d8a1ad5f1c4%7C1%7C0%7C638120884668712267%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljoIMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2FdI58Bck2KEI%2F6cnm%2FAiXUzZNxhnC6u1BShtSpltn4g%3D&reserved=0>

May I ask during the past 3 years (2022, 2021, 2020), how many nominations during the "initial search" stage you have received, please separate the data by different issued occasion, e.g. New Year and King's Birthday.

Also, you mentioned "The process for considering potential candidates is guided by the Ministry's senior leadership team and approved by the Chief Executive", can you please let me know when you submitted to the Chief Executive, how many nomination Chief Executive has agreed to support and how many Chief Executive declined during the past 3 years.

When you submitted to the Minister's office, how many nomination Minister has agreed to support and how many Minister declined during the past 3 years.

I noted, you referred to the "through our community networks", please specify what does this means, if it is a list of organizations, please supply name of the organization on your list.

I will respond to your request in turn.

- 1. May I ask during the past 3 years (2022,2021,2020), how many nominations during the "initial search" stage you have received, please separate the data by different issued occasion, e.g. New Year and King's Birthday.*

Manatū Wāhine did not receive completed nominations for Royal Honours from members of the public during 2020, 2021 or 2022.

Occasionally, the Nominations team receive names from members of the public that the Minister may consider for Royal Honours. However we do not formally record this information.

- 2. Also, you mentioned "The process for considering potential candidates is guided by the Ministry's senior leadership team and approved by the Chief Executive", can you please let me know when you submitted to the Chief Executive, how many nomination Chief Executive has agreed to support and how many Chief Executive declined during the past 3 years.*

The Chief Executive approves the process undertaken by the Nominations Team, they do not support or decline nominations.

- 3. When you submitted to the Minister's office, how many nomination Minister has agreed to support and how many Minister declined during the past 3 years.*

To maintain the confidentiality of the New Zealand Royal Honours system, we do not release any details of women considered or nominated by the Minister for Women. Therefore, we are withholding this information under the following sections of the Act:

- s 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons;
- s 9(2)(ba)(i) to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence, where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied;
- s 9(2)(f)(iv) to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials; and
- s 9(2)(g)(i) to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to Ministers or officials in the course of their duty.

4. *I noted, you referred to the "through our community networks", please specify what does this means, if it is a list of organizations, please supply name of the organization on your list.*

No formalised list exists. This service is to support the Minister and their nominations process. Where required, we will use our existing relationships to identify candidates.

Please note that this response, with your personal details redacted, may be published on the Ministry's website. If you have any concerns or comments related to this, please let us know by emailing ministerialservicing@women.govt.nz, within two weeks of the date of this letter.

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



Maxine Shortland
Acting Director Corporate Services