

28/01/22

By email to: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

### **OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST 2021/43**

On 31/12/21 you made a request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA) for the following information:

- *Between March 19, 2020, and December 31, 2021, how many non-resident citizens lost their right to vote due to being outside New Zealand for longer than three years?*
- *As of December 31, 2021, how many non-resident New Zealand citizens are able to vote in the 2023 General Election?*

Our records show that between 19 March 2020 and 31 December 2021, 775 people were disqualified for registration as an elector in New Zealand pursuant to section 80(1)(a) of the Electoral Act 1993.

As of 31 December 2021, 64,964 people living outside of New Zealand would be eligible to vote in a General Election, if an election were to be held on that day. The Electoral Commission does not know how many of those people would remain eligible to vote in a General Election held in 2023.

The information you have requested has been provided in full.

In the interests of transparency, we release responses to Official Information Act requests every 3 months. We will publish this response with your personal details redacted.

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 request. Information about how to do this is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by phoning 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Ross McPherson  
Manager Enrolment & Community Engagement Operations