

14 November 2023

By email to: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST 2023/72

On Tuesday 17 October 2023 you made a request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA) for the following information:

Punaruku Booth at Whangaruru School Northland was listed as opening on Election Day but it never did.

I request all the information that the Electoral Commission has that relates to the issue of it not opening. I want this to include all information such as emails, texts, whatsapp messages, memory recollections from staff in The Electoral Commissions Regional Offices in Northland/Auckland of all phone calls about it, etc. This must also include all this type of information from Electoral Commission security and legal teams and also Head-Quarters staff in Wellington too.

Copies of all communication that relates to the decision not to open Whangaruru School as a voting place for Election Day are attached.

Some contact details, such as phone numbers, email addresses and some names have been withheld under s 9(2)(a) of the OIA which relates to the privacy of natural persons.

In each case where redactions have been made under section 9(2)(a), consideration has been given and I am satisfied that the reasons for withholding of the information are not outweighed by other considerations which render it desirable in the public interest to make that information available.

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 or by phoning 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Martin Rodgers
Director, Voting Services