

25 January 2023

s9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe s9(2)(a)

I refer to your request transferred to us on 18 January 2023 from the Ministry for Business Innovation and Employment, which has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), for the following information:

Has the Government commissioned research to establish what the likely real cost would be to change our country's name from New Zealand to Aotearoa? If so, what is the figure?

Following a comprehensive search, we do not hold the information you requested, and we do not believe any other department or agency would hold the information requested.

In searching for relevant information, we contacted Land Information New Zealand and the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) and were advised these agencies also do not hold the information you have requested.

We are therefore refusing your request under section 18(e) of the Official Information Act because the information is not held and does not exist.

You may be interested to know that the Ministry recently provided information to the Petitions Select Committee on the historical usage of the term Aotearoa. You can view this here: https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/submissions-and-advice/document/53SCPET_EVI_111958_PET2157/manat%C5%AB-taonga-ministry-for-culture-and-heritage-historical.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact ويا@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.

Please note that we intend to publish this letter (with your personal details removed) on the Ministry's website

Nāku noa, nā

s9(2)(a)

Kartini Havell

Pou Arataki o Te Pae Māpuna – Manager, Heritage and Taonga