



28 January 2026

9(2)(a) privacy

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**Official Information Request**  
**Our Ref: OIA 2025-0155**

I refer to your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request received on 13 November 2025 for:

- 1. all documents relevant to the creation of a statutory Deputy Commissioner of Police which I understand commenced in or about August 2022, who instigated that process and the reasons for it*
- 2. all documents relevant to shortlisting one or more possible statutory Deputy Commissioners of police including criteria for the role and how candidates would be assessed to see if they were fit and proper for the role*
- 3. all documents relevant to selection and appointment of one or more statutory Deputy Commissioners of Police including the names of referees for each candidate*

We notified you on 8 December 2025 that an extension was required because your request was for a large quantity of information and meeting the original time limit would unreasonably interfere with our operations and that consultations needed to make a decision on your request were such that a proper response could not reasonably be made within the original time limit.

**Our response**

The statutory Deputy Commissioner of Police role was established under the Police Act 1958 and first filled in 1974.

The appointment process where Jevon McSkimming was appointed as a statutory Deputy Police Commissioner commenced in 2022 in anticipation of the retirement of several Deputy Commissioners of Police (statutory and non-statutory).

The 2022/23 process allowed the Governor-General, on the advice of the Prime Minister, to appoint one or more Statutory Deputy Police Commissioners as provided for in the Policing Act 2008. The second position appointed through the 2022/23 process was that of Tania Kura. The rationale for creating two statutory positions was to strengthen governance and operational resilience.

The then Police Commissioner also sought to maintain organisational stability by aligning appointments with internal leadership changes and portfolio responsibilities. Further details are available in the publicly released Appointment Papers (see below).

### Information publicly available

The following information is also covered by your request and is publicly available on the Commission's website at the link provided for in the table below.

Item	Date	Document Description	Website Address
1	December 2022	<b>APPOINTMENT PAPERS</b> - Deputy Commissioners of Police	<a href="#">Appointments-Deputy-Commissioners-of-Police.pdf</a>

Accordingly, I have refused your request for the documents listed in the above table under section 18(d) of the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) on the grounds the information requested is or will soon be publicly available.

Some relevant information has been removed from documents listed in the above table and should continue to be withheld under the OIA, on the grounds described in the documents.

### Information being withheld

There are additional documents covered by your request relating to the recruitment process for the appointment of the Deputy Commissioners that I have decided to withhold in full under the following sections of the OIA, as applicable:

- section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of individuals, including that of deceased natural persons.
- section 9(2)(b)(ii) - protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information would be likely otherwise to damage the public interest.
- section 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 of the Crown or members of an organisation or officers and employees of any public service agency or organisation in the course of their duty.

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the OIA.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact [Enquiries@publicservice.govt.nz](mailto:Enquiries@publicservice.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](http://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 Commission's website.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nicky Dirks', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Nicky Dirks

**Manager - Ministerial and Executive Services**  
**Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission**