



**Te Kawa Mataaho**  
Public Service Commission

25 May 2021

9(2)(a)  
privacy

Dear 9(2)(a) privacy

**Official Information Request**  
**Our Ref: OIA 2021-0035**

I refer to your official information request received on 18 April 2021 where you asked:

*“Could you please advise the ethnicity of every commissioner please”.*

Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission contacted you on 30 April 2021 providing you a list of the Public Service Commissioners (Commissioner’s) dating back to 1913 and asked whether there were certain Commissioner’s you were interested in before we commenced a search of records held offsite.

On 9 May 2021 you responded stating you were wanting the ethnicity of each of the Commissioners dating back to 1913. You also further extended your request and asked for the sex of each of the Commissioners dating back to 1913. Then on 10 May 2021 you further extended your request and asked for the percentage of Commissioner’s who have Maori ancestry.

**Information being released**

Given the period of time your request covers, information relating to every Commissioner since 1913 is held in either onsite digital files, offsite paper files and physical files held at Archives NZ.

We have searched all these file formats and have found that information in relation to the ethnicity and Maori ancestry of the Commissioner’s since 1913 is not held. We are therefore refusing your request for the ethnicity and the percentage of Commissioner’s who have Maori ancestry under section 18(e) of the Official Information Act 1982 on the grounds that the information requested does not exist.

Publicly available information about all the previous Commissioner’s can be found at the following [link](#), which should assist you with identifying the sex of each Commissioner since 1913.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact [Ministerial.Services@publicservice.govt.nz](mailto:Ministerial.Services@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 Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission’s website.

Yours sincerely

Nicky Dirks  
**Managing Principal – Ministerial Services**  
**Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission**