

14 November 2022

A Davenport  
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Our ref: OIA 99501

Tēnā koe A Davenport

### **Official Information Act request: Referees at the Rotorua Disputes Tribunal**

Thank you for your email of 20 September 2022, requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), information relating to referees of the Disputes Tribunal (Tribunal) based in Rotorua. Specifically, you requested:

- 1. The name of the Principal Referee at the Rotorua Disputes Tribunal and their contact email.*
- 2. Any formal complaints against Referee G R Meyer at the Rotorua District Court Tribunal*
- 3. Tribunal referees code of conduct and policy.*

Firstly, it may be helpful to note that Tribunal Referees are independent judicial officers and are not employees of the Ministry. While the Ministry of Justice provides administrative support to the Tribunal, it is a judicial body that must operate independently from the Government, Ministers, and their officials.

#### *Principal Disputes Referee*

Janet Robertshawe is the current Principal Disputes Referee (PDR) for the Tribunal and is responsible for the Tribunal across New Zealand.

As part of its administrative support to the Tribunal, the Ministry refers matters raised by the public to the PDR. Any complaints regarding the behaviour of a Referee can be sent to [official.correspondence@justice.govt.nz](mailto:official.correspondence@justice.govt.nz)

Any enquiries relating to active cases should be directed to the appropriate court registry responsible for managing the case. You can find the contact details of the local court registries at the following address: <https://www.justice.govt.nz/contact-us/find-us/>

*Complaints against referees and the Disputes Tribunal Referees Code of Conduct and policy*

The Ministry does not hold copies of any formal complaints against referees or the Tribunal's Referees code of conduct or policy. Therefore, I am refusing these parts of your request under section 18(g)(i) of the Act as the information is not held by the Ministry of Justice, nor any other agency subject to the Act.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry of Justice website at: [justice.govt.nz/about/official-information-act-requests/oia-responses/](https://justice.govt.nz/about/official-information-act-requests/oia-responses/). If you require any further information, please contact Joe Locke, Media & Social Media Manager, at [media@justice.govt.nz](mailto:media@justice.govt.nz)

If you are not satisfied with my response, you have the right to complain to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by phone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



Jacquelyn Shannon  
**Group Manager, Courts and Tribunals, Regional Service Delivery**