

2 August 2012

[lyth@ihug.co.nz](mailto:lyth@ihug.co.nz)  
[fyi-request-242-29ba9f83@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-242-29ba9f83@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Phil

**Re: Official Information request – Citizenship ceremonies**

I am responding to your email of 21 May 2012 requesting information about citizenship ceremonies. I contacted you on 27 June 2012 and 6 July 2012 to obtain clarification regarding your fifth point, but have not received a response to date. My response does not include the fifth point.

1. Does DIA or the Minister keep records regarding citizenship ceremonies conducted?

*Yes, the Department keeps some information about citizenship ceremonies.*

If yes, then

2. In the three months Jan - March 2012, please provide details of all citizenship ceremonies conducted other than by territorial local authorities (or the mayor/deputy mayor thereof).

*Please see the response to question 3, below.*

3. Please include details for each of the date, the MP or other person conducting, the number of new citizens, and their names.

*Please see the attached document showing the citizenship ceremonies that were held in January, February and March 2012.*

*Names of individuals are withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act 1982.*

If no, then

4. How does DIA know that the oath/affirmation has been administered and the ceremony completed? Does the person conducting sign a certificate which is then returned to DIA? Or does something else happen?

*The person who administers the ceremony completes and signs a form stating that the applicant took the oath or affirmation of allegiance, and returns it to the Department.*

In either case,

5. Please advise details of the number of citizenship applications approved by the Minister in 2011 where citizenship requirements have not been subsequently completed at a ceremony. Please include the numbers of adults and children in each such group, and the names.

**CITIZENSHIP  
Raraunga**  
Service Delivery and Operations  
109 Featherston St, PO Box 10680  
Wellington 6143, New Zealand  
Freephone 0800 22 51 51  
Facsimile +64 4 382 3406  
Website [www.dia.govt.nz](http://www.dia.govt.nz)



You have the right, by way of complaint under Section 28(3) of the Act to an Ombudsman, to seek an investigation and review of the decision to withhold information.

The Ombudsman's address for contact is:

The Ombudsman  
Office of the Ombudsmen  
PO Box 10-152  
WELLINGTON

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jane Fookes', with a stylized, cursive script.

Jane Fookes  
Business Support Officer  
Citizenship

The following citizenship ceremonies were held in January, February and March 2012:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Who held the ceremony</b>	<b>Number of applicants</b>
6/01/2012	New Zealand representative	1
9/01/2012	Justice of the Peace	4
12/01/2012	Barrister	1
16/01/2012	Departmental representative	2
20/01/2012	Justice of the Peace	3
24/01/2012	Departmental representative	1
26/01/2012	Justice of the Peace	2
26/01/2012	Departmental representative	1
26/01/2012	Barrister	1
29/01/2012	Member of Parliament	1
2/02/2012	New Zealand representative	1
3/02/2012	Departmental representative	1
5/02/2012	Justice of the Peace	4
6/02/2012	Departmental representative	15
6/02/2012	New Zealand representative	4
6/02/2012	Departmental representative	24
9/02/2012	Justice of the Peace	1
13/02/2012	Departmental representative	6
13/02/2012	Departmental representative	6
14/02/2012	Departmental representative	5
15/02/2012	Departmental representative	5
15/02/2012	Departmental representative	5
16/02/2012	Justice of the Peace	1
16/02/2012	Departmental representative	6
16/02/2012	Departmental representative	6
16/02/2012	Departmental representative	1
17/02/2012	New Zealand representative	1
17/02/2012	Departmental representative	6
17/02/2012	Departmental representative	6
17/02/2012	Departmental representative	2
23/02/2012	Departmental representative	1
23/02/2012	New Zealand representative	1
24/02/2012	Justice of the Peace	1
24/02/2012	Departmental representative	1
29/02/2012	Justice of the Peace	1
4/03/2012	Justice of the Peace	1
5/03/2012	Departmental representative	1
7/03/2012	New Zealand representative	1
7/03/2012	Departmental representative	1
10/03/2012	Justice of the Peace	1
11/03/2012	Justice of the Peace	1
12/03/2012	Departmental representative	6

12/03/2012	Departmental representative	5
12/03/2012	Departmental representative	10
12/03/2012	Departmental representative	10
13/03/2012	New Zealand representative	1
13/03/2012	New Zealand representative	1
13/03/2012	Departmental representative	6
13/03/2012	Departmental representative	6
13/03/2012	Departmental representative	9
13/03/2012	Departmental representative	12
14/03/2012	Departmental representative	6
14/03/2012	Departmental representative	6
14/03/2012	Departmental representative	9
14/03/2012	Departmental representative	10
15/03/2012	Departmental representative	6
15/03/2012	Departmental representative	6
15/03/2012	Departmental representative	8
15/03/2012	Departmental representative	9
16/03/2012	Departmental representative	6
16/03/2012	Departmental representative	5
18/03/2012	Justice of the Peace	1
20/03/2012	Departmental representative	1
21/03/2012	Justice of the Peace	1
22/03/2012	Departmental representative	1
23/03/2012	Justice of the Peace	1
23/03/2012	Departmental representative	1
23/03/2012	New Zealand representative	1
30/03/2012	Member of Parliament	1