



**Te Tari Taiwhenua  
Internal Affairs**

4 March 2024

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John Luke

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Tēnā koe John,

**Your Official Information Act 1982 request, reference OIA 23/24-0554**

Thank you for your email of 2 February 2024 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*"I noted,*

*Briefing to the Incoming Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector "You have an opportunity to continue to promote and better recognise the contribution of volunteers to communities. Volunteer recognition has come to the fore as an endeavour that government can support and is well received within the sector."*

*what sort of the recognition were you talking about here. Monetary?*

*"Peak bodies (umbrella organisations representing the shared interests of the sector), supported by the Department, are developing a more fit for purpose professional development and accreditation framework for volunteers to allow them to receive formal recognition for the skills and experience they gain from the volunteer work they do."*

*What sort of accreditation framework has been proposed? NZQA?."*

I am responding to your request as two separate questions below.

***Point One***

As noted in this section of the Briefing to the Incoming Minister (BIM), the advancement of National Volunteer Week and the Big Shout Out have been successful avenues in which volunteers throughout New Zealand are appreciated and celebrated. Both initiatives are led by Volunteering New Zealand. This recognition is appreciative and celebratory rather than monetary.

***Point Two***

A more fit-for-purpose professional development and accreditation framework is under development. This will allow volunteers to receive formal recognition for the skills and experience they gain from the volunteer work they do. At present we do not have any information on the details of the framework.



### **Access to the Ombudsman**

You have the right, under section 28 of the Act, to seek an investigation and review of this decision by the Office of the Ombudsman. Information is available on the website [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz). Alternatively, you can phone 0800 802 602 or email [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz).

### **Proactive release of your request**

We intend to publish our response to your request on Te Tari Taiwhenua's website at [www.dia.govt.nz](http://www.dia.govt.nz). This letter, with your personal details removed, will be published in its entirety. Publishing responses increases the availability of information to the public and is consistent with the Act's purpose of enabling more effective participation in the making and administration of laws and policies and promoting the accountability of Ministers and officials.

Nāku noa nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeremy Cauchi'.

Jeremy Cauchi  
**Director Ministerial, Monitoring, and Capability**