



## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

1 March 2017

Andre  
fyi-request-5321-4504c5ff@requests.fyi.org.nz

Reference: OIA-2016/17-0278

Dear Andre

### Official Information Act: Her Majesty the Queen in right of New Zealand

1 I refer to your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 2 February 2017. You requested the following:

*“Please provide all documentation for the below questions related to HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN IN RIGHT OF NEW ZEALAND.*

*1. Establishment information examples (trust deed, Articles of association, Memorandum of association) 2. Annual reports 3. Any Acts and legal documents relating the creation of the entity 4. Policies and procedures.”*

- 2 The Constitution Act 1986 is the principal formal statement of our constitutional arrangements. It recognises that the Queen, as the Sovereign in right of New Zealand, is the head of State of New Zealand. You can view the Constitution Act online at [www.legislation.govt.nz](http://www.legislation.govt.nz).
- 3 The phrase ‘Her Majesty the Queen in right of New Zealand’ may be used in a number of contexts, to reflect the concept that central government in New Zealand is carried out in the Sovereign’s name and on her behalf. For example, purchases of property made by a government department may be done in the name of ‘Her Majesty the Queen in right of New Zealand’. ‘The Crown’ in this context has the same meaning as ‘the State’.
- 4 For that reason, any annual reports, “acts and legal documents relating to the creation of the entity” and “policies and procedures” would encompass the activities of all Ministers of the Crown and all departments, which we are unable to provide.
- 5 Further information about the role of the Queen and her representative in New Zealand, the Governor-General, can be found on the website of the Governor-General: [www.gg.govt.nz](http://www.gg.govt.nz).
- 6 You are entitled to ask the Ombudsman to review this response under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act. You can contact the Ombudsman online via the Ombudsman website, by email ([info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz)) or by post to The Ombudsman, PO Box 10152,

Wellington 6143. Further details can be found on the Ombudsman website at:  
[www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

Yours sincerely



Michael Webster  
**Clerk of the Executive Council**