

14 August 2019



### Official Information Act request

Thank you for your Official Information Act request dated 19 June 2019 for the below:

- *The name of all cellphone companies providing or expected to provide cellphone information under this program;*
- *all advice on this programme, including (but not limited to) briefings, aides memoires, internal papers, privacy assessments, and cabinet papers;*
- *all communications with the Privacy Commissioner on this topic.*

Releasing the names of the telecommunication companies would likely impact the commercial position of these companies, and impact Stats NZ's ability to conduct negotiations. Therefore, this information is withheld under Section 9(2)(b)(ii) and Section 9(2)(j) of the Official Information Act.

Data Ventures engaged a third party, namely Info by Design, to liaise with the Office of the Privacy Commissioner and carry out the Privacy Impact Assessment for the population density pilot. The majority of communication with the Office of the Privacy Commissioner was carried out by Info by Design, and therefore is not held by Stats NZ. We have however provided the communication with the Office of the Privacy Commissioner and Info by Design that is held by Stats NZ.

In this communication you will see Data Ventures unsuccessfully applied for the Privacy Trust Mark for the Population Density pilot. As the Population Density pilot collects aggregated information which cannot be reidentified, it does not meet the criteria for the Trust Mark. In this communication, the Privacy Commissioner confirms the Population Density pilot complies with the Privacy Act 1993.

Several documents within scope of your request are publicly available on Stats NZ's website. The table below provides the title of the document available, and a link to it on Stats NZ's website.

Title of document	Link
Meeting with the Iwi Chairs' Forum – Census and Data Ventures	<a href="https://cdm20045.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p20045coll25/id/17/rec/3">https://cdm20045.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p20045coll25/id/17/rec/3</a>
Quarterly report for the period ending 30 September 2018	<a href="https://cdm20045.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p20045coll25/id/82/rec/1">https://cdm20045.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p20045coll25/id/82/rec/1</a>
Weekly report for the period ending 9 November 2018	<a href="https://cdm20045.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p20045coll25/id/40/rec/10">https://cdm20045.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p20045coll25/id/40/rec/10</a>
Weekly report for the period ending 30 November 2018	<a href="https://cdm20045.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p20045coll25/id/38/rec/9">https://cdm20045.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p20045coll25/id/38/rec/9</a>
Quarterly report for the period ending 31 December 2018	<a href="https://cdm20045.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p20045coll25/id/53">https://cdm20045.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p20045coll25/id/53</a>
Quarterly report for the period ending 31 March 2019	<a href="https://cdm20045.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p20045coll25/id/64">https://cdm20045.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p20045coll25/id/64</a>

Population Density Privacy Impact Assessment	<a href="https://www.stats.govt.nz/privacy-impact-assessments/privacy-impact-assessment-for-population-density">https://www.stats.govt.nz/privacy-impact-assessments/privacy-impact-assessment-for-population-density</a>
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In addition to the above, appended to this letter is:

- all advice to the Minister of Statistics regarding Data Ventures and the population density project
- copies of the Executive Director Reports for Data Ventures, provided as updates to the Data Ventures Board from August 2018 onwards
- a Strategy Session document that provides detail on Data Ventures' aims and goals
- all communication with the Privacy Commissioner, and Info by Design
- A lean canvas on the population density pilot.

Redactions have been made to the material provided; these are summarised in the table below. Additionally, where possible, a summary of the redacted text has been included as an Appendix to the Executive Director Reports.

Redaction type	Summary
Section 9(2)(j) of the Act	Information redacted under this section of the Act is withheld to enable Stats NZ to continue negotiations with data suppliers and customers.  Information withheld under this section includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the names of data suppliers and customers</li> <li>• updates on meeting with data suppliers and customers, including costings</li> <li>• details of negotiations with customers and suppliers, including costings.</li> </ul>
Section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the Act	Information redacted under this section of the Act relates to the commercial position of Stats NZ, data suppliers or customers. Information withheld under this section includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• names of data suppliers and customers</li> <li>• updates on meeting with data suppliers and customers, including costings</li> <li>• details of negotiations with customers and suppliers, including costings.</li> </ul>
Section 9(2)(a) of the Act	Information redacted under this section of the Act relates to personal information and is withheld to protect the privacy of the individuals referred to.
Section 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act	Information redacted under this section of the Act is withheld maintain the conduct of public affairs through free and frank expression and opinion.

Additionally, however not within the scope of your request but of possible interest, I have attached to this response the Memorandum of Understanding template for data supply for Data Ventures' population density pilot.

You have the right, by way of complaint to the Office of the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act, to seek an investigation and review of this response to your request.

Stats NZ intends to publish its response to your request made under the Act on the Stats NZ website. This letter, with your personal details removed, will be published in its entirety. Consistent with the Act, publishing responses increases the availability of information to the public and helps promote balanced public debate.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Drew Broadley', with a stylized, flowing script.

**Drew Broadley**  
Executive Director  
Data Ventures