

14 August 2019



### Official Information Act request

Thank you for your Official Information Act request dated 19 June 2019, and for refining the request for the following:

1. *Planning and strategy documents, and status updates.*
2. *A list of meetings, including time and date, and meeting subject.*
3. *Relevant correspondence with communication providers*

In response to your request, appended to this letter are:

- copies of the Executive Director Reports for Data Ventures, provided as updates to the Data Ventures Board from August 2018 onwards
- all advice to the Minister of Statistics regarding Data Ventures and the population density project
- A list of meetings held with the telecommunication companies, including time and date, and meeting subject.
- all communication with the Privacy Commissioner, and Info by Design
- communication with telecommunication companies relating to 'anonymization'
- a Strategy Session document that provides detail on Data Ventures' aims and goals
- A lean canvas on the population density pilot
- Information regarding the population density pilot
- the Memorandum of Understanding template for data supply for Data Ventures' population density pilot.

Stats NZ interpreted your request for "*relevant correspondence with communication providers*" to relate to your interest in "*discussions that have been had with cellphone providers around this project. In particular I'm interested in whether the work at their end for anonymization is being funded externally or internally, how this was decided, what facility is being allowed for opt out and any questions or concerns that have been raised by cellphone providers*". All correspondence identified within scope of this is included within the communication with telecommunication companies relating to 'anonymization' identified above.

Please note Data Ventures engaged a third party, Info by Design, to liaise with the Office of the Privacy Commissioner and carry out the Privacy Impact Assessment for the population density pilot. Due to this the majority of communication with the Office of the Privacy Commissioner was carried out by Info by Design and therefore not held but Stats NZ. However, we have 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.

In addition to the documents appended to this letter, 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.

<b>Title of document</b>	<b>Link</b>
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>

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.

<b>Redaction type</b>	<b>Summary</b>
Section 9(2)(j) of the Act	<p>Information redacted under this section of the Act is withheld to enable Stats NZ to continue negotiations with data suppliers and customers.</p> <p>Information withheld under this section includes:</p> <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	<p>Information redacted under this section of the Act relates to the commercial position of Stats NZ, data suppliers or customers.</p> <p>Information withheld under this section includes:</p> <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.

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,



**Drew Broadley**  
Executive Director  
Data Ventures