



**Te Kawa Mataaho**  
Public Service Commission

# **Official Information Forum**

## **November 2020**

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*Online attendees, microphones off please*

# Agenda

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**1.30pm Welcome & housekeeping**

**1.35pm The Public Service Act 2020 and official information**

**2.15pm Official information and COVID**

**2.45pm Short break**

**3.00pm Guest speaker**

Andrew Ecclestone: *The OIA in context*

**3.45pm Close**



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# **The Public Service Act 2020 and official information**

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**Catherine Williams**  
**Deputy Commissioner**  
**Integrity, Ethics and Standards**

# Public Service Act 2020

## PURPOSE

The Public Service supports constitutional and democratic government, enables both the current Government and successive governments to develop and implement their policies, delivers high-quality and efficient public services, supports the Government to pursue the long-term public interest, facilitates active citizenship, and acts in accordance with the law.

## MĀORI CROWN RELATIONSHIPS

The role of the Public Service includes supporting the Crown in its relationships with Māori under the Treaty of Waitangi/Te Tiriti o Waitangi

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## PRINCIPLES

Foundational principles of the Public Service acting in our constitutional role

**politically neutral** **free and frank advice** **merit-based appointments**  
**open government** **stewardship**

## VALUES

The behaviours needed to deliver the purpose of the Public Service

**impartial** **accountable** **trustworthy** **respectful** **responsive**

## Spirit of Service

The fundamental characteristic of the Public Service is acting with a spirit of service to the community.



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# Official information and COVID

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# Official information and COVID

Did the nature of the requests your agency received change?

Did your agency release more or different information proactively in response to COVID-19?

Were there lessons from this year that will inform changes to your agencies OIA processes or thinking in the future? eg

- opportunities for more proactive release
- changes to information management processes (for example, to address difficulty accessing information during lockdown)
- changes to authorisation/sign out processes eg from physical sign out to electronic
- changes to the way you release information eg formats, publication etc.



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# Guest speaker

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**Andrew Ecclestone**

# Web Standards clinics

Free two hour “drop in” clinics held fortnightly by DIA for anyone delivering digital services with an emphasis on best practice and practical solutions

Attend in person or online

Bring your questions and challenges, general or specific, about:

- web accessibility, and
- how to implement the New Zealand Government Web Standards.

Next dates:

- 3 December 2020
- 17 December 2020

Contact [web.standards@dia.govt.nz](mailto:web.standards@dia.govt.nz)



# New guides from the Office of the Ombudsman

[Privacy: A guide to section 9\(2\)\(a\) of the OIA and section 7\(2\)\(a\) of the LGOIMA](#)

*Published 5 November 2020*

Agencies should consider alongside the *Names and contact details of public sector employees* guide published in April

[Confidentiality: A guide to section 9\(2\)\(ba\) of the OIA and section 7\(2\)\(c\) of the LGOIMA](#)

Published 19 November 2020

# Here to help

- If you need advice or assistance, or have topic the Forum to consider in 2021, please contact the Te Kawa Mataaho on [OIAForum@publicservice.govt.nz](mailto:OIAForum@publicservice.govt.nz)
- Check out our online resources: <http://publicservice.govt.nz/official-information>



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**Thank you**

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