

**MUSEUM OF NEW
ZEALAND
TE PAPA
TONGAREWA**

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29 April 2024

Tēnā koe,

Re: Official Information Act (OIA) Request – Queen Victoria's Royal Charter Letters/Patent follow up enquiry

Thank you for your reply to our response to your OIA request of 22 March 2024. In your reply of 10 April you acknowledged repeatedly submitting the same question to Te Papa and advised that you 'cannot believe, Te Papa does not have a copy of Queen Victoria's Royal Charter/Letters Patent dated 16 November 1840'.

As advised, Archives New Zealand is the organisation that holds this document and has made it available online, so a copy is readily available to the general public.

You have also submitted a further OIA request in which you asked:

How does Te Papa inform the many thousands of visitors who visit Te Papa each year on how New Zealand separated from the dependency of New South Wales and became a British Colony with a Governor and Constitution that set up New Zealand's political, legal and justice systems under one flag and one law, irrespective of race colour or creed?

We have also responded to this enquiry from you previously and it is apparent that you are not satisfied with any response Te Papa has provided. On that basis your repeated submission of the same questions under the OIA can be categorised as vexatious and your request is refused in accordance with s18(h) of the Act.

You may be aware of the media release of 23 April regarding renewal of the *Signs of a Nation* exhibition (<https://www.tepapa.govt.nz/about/press-and-media/press-releases/2024-media-releases/te-papa-takes-next-step-in-te-tiriti-exhibition>). If you have an interest in the renewal you may wish to monitor the Te Papa website and social media channels for updates in the future. We note you have submitted an email to enquiries@tepapa.govt.nz on 19 April regarding the exhibition and we have passed that along to the team who are managing feedback on *Signs of a Nation*.

If you are not satisfied with this response you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request with us please contact OIA@tepapa.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely



Frances Lawrence
Principal Advisor Strategy, Planning and Performance