



Local Government Official Information and Meetings Amendment Act 2003

Public Act 2003 No 82
Date of assent 21 October 2003
Commencement see section 2

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The Parliament of New Zealand enacts as follows:

1 Title

- (1) This Act is the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Amendment Act 2003.
- (2) In this Act, the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 is called “the principal Act”.

2 Commencement

This Act comes into force on the day after the date on which it receives the Royal assent.

3 New sections 17A and 17B inserted

The principal Act is amended by inserting, after section 17, the following sections:

“17A Requests involving substantial collation or research

- “(1) In deciding whether to refuse a request under section 17(f), the local authority must consider whether doing either or both of the following would enable the request to be granted:
 - “(a) fixing a charge under section 13:
 - “(b) extending the time limit under section 14.

- “(2) For the purposes of refusing a request under section 17(f), the local authority may treat as a single request 2 or more requests from the same person—
- “(a) that are about the same subject matter or about similar subject matters; and
- “(b) that are received simultaneously or in short succession.

“17B Duty to consider consulting person if request likely to be refused under section 17(e) or (f)

If a request is likely to be refused under section 17(e) or (f), the local authority must, before that request is refused, consider whether consulting with the person who made the request would assist that person to make the request in a form that would remove the reason for the refusal.”

4 Functions of Ombudsmen

Section 27 of the principal Act is amended by repealing subsection (3), and substituting the following subsections:

- “(3) An investigation and review under subsection (1) or subsection (2) may be made by an Ombudsman only on complaint being made to an Ombudsman in writing or orally.
- “(3A) A complaint made orally must be put in writing as soon as practicable.”

Legislative history

16 October 2003	Divided from Statutes Amendment Bill (No 3), third reading.
21 October 2003	Royal assent

This Act is administered in the Ministry of Justice.
