

Reference Number: 2024/1175

16 December 2024



Tēnā koe

Thank you for your email which was transferred from Department of Internal Affairs to Horowhenua District Council on 13 December 2024 requesting under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA), information relating to citizenship ceremony dates for 2025. Please see outlined below a response to each part of your request.

***All the Citizenship Ceremony dates from December 2024 to December 2025***

At Horowhenua District Council (the Council), Citizenship Ceremonies are scheduled once the waitlist reaches approximately 25 – 30 candidates. The Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) keeps us informed of numbers on a regular basis.

Therefore, we are unable to provide ceremony dates, as we don't have any scheduled for 2025 at this stage.

***What are the criteria and procedures for someone to attend a ceremony in a place that is not where they usually live. Is there any supporting document they need to provide? For example, if someone needs to attend a ceremony in Auckland but they wish to attend the ceremony in Hamilton (because the Hamilton one is the earliest and they don't get the Auckland one before their citizenship application lapse date), what he or she should do?***

This should be responded to by DIA as this is not a decision that a Council makes.

On the very few occasions where DIA has asked if we are able to host a candidate from outside of the district, we have accommodated the request.

You are entitled to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Horowhenua District Council publishes responses to Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) requests that we consider to be of wider public interest, or which relate to a subject that has been widely requested. To protect your privacy, we will not generally publish personal information about you, or information that identifies you. We will publish the LGOIMA response along with a summary of the request on our website. Requests and responses may be paraphrased.

If you would like to discuss this decision or any of the information provided as part of this request, please contact the LGOIMA Advisor on [LGOIMAOfficer@Horowhenua.govt.nz](mailto:LGOIMAOfficer@Horowhenua.govt.nz).

Ngā mihi

Ashley Huria  
Executive Sponsor