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**From:** BSA Media  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 10 January 2023 3:12 pm  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Stuff Inquiry - OIA request

Kia ora [REDACTED]

Thanks for your enquiry. The numbers for the years you've requested are as follows:

- 2022: 61
- 2021: 87
- 2020: 20
- 2019: 7
- 2018: 4

However, please note that these numbers relate to informal 'enquiries' rather than formal complaints. Only three have resulted in formal complaints and it was following a couple of these that the Authority issued its [March 2021 guidance drawing a line under complaints about Te Reo](#).

In this guidance, the Authority noted te reo Māori is an official New Zealand language whose use is protected and promoted by law. It encouraged broadcasters to respond to complaints indicating it is not a breach of standards to broadcast in te reo Māori.

The rise in enquiries appears to be a response to the growing use of te reo Māori in media generally. After the publicity in March 2021 over our position that we wouldn't accept these kinds of complaints, we had a spike in enquiries – both for and against our stance.

The above response addresses your request under the Official Information Act. However, if you are dissatisfied you have the right to seek an investigation and review of this response by 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.

Please also note that, in accordance with our Proactive Disclosure Policy, we will undertake an assessment of whether this response should be proactively released on our website.

Ngā mihi mahana

**Pete Barnao** ([he/him](#))

Communications and Engagement Lead