

## Stephen Day

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**From:** Stephen Day  
**Sent:** Thursday, 21 May 2026 2:02 pm  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** [REDACTED]  
**Attachments:** Artificial Intelligence Policy [2024 08].docx

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thanks for the email.

- **Q1 and Q2: What Artificial Intelligence is your Ministry considering implementing in the next year? And What aspects or parts of the business will it be implemented in? i.e., how will the AI be used**

The commission uses artificial intelligence across a wide range of workstreams. The most prominent one is by our geospatial team to process, manage and understand large amounts of geospatial data. However, it is also used for corporate management, communications, and advocacy – for instance, helping to draft documents, synthesising complex texts and supporting staff to develop work plans. We intend to continue using it in all these areas next year and will consider it for other workstreams if we identify value and it meets our artificial intelligence policy requirements. (See attached).

Most staff and contractors have access to M365 Co-Pilot as part of our Microsoft license, as well as to publicly available web AI such as ChatGPT, Grammarly and Gemini. The geospatial team uses generative AI for data analysis and coding, including Claude and Generative AI, to resolve technical issues. In the past we applied locally hosted (closed system) large language models to interrogate cadastral data during the initial stages of the geospatial team's Data Improvement Programme.

- **Q3: Will its implementation reduce the workload or staff numbers?**

The commission has no plans to reduce staff numbers as a result of its use of artificial intelligence. We see AI as a productivity asset, rather than a saving. I.e. we use it to have greater impact and deliver greater value for money.

- **Q4: What safety and security protocols has it had to pass to be considered acceptable for implementation?**

I have attached our policy on Artificial Intelligence that sets out the commission's processes for assessing and using AI in our work.

Please call me if you want anything clarified or any further information.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this response. 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 note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Our response to your request will be published shortly at <https://www.herengaanuku.govt.nz/our-work/about/disclosure/official-information-act-responses> with your personal information removed.

Nāku noa, nā

Stephen



**Stephen Day**

Kaiwhakahaere Whakapā | Communications Manager  
Outdoor Access Commission  
+64 278158552



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**From:** info <info@herengaanuku.govt.nz>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 21 May 2026 11:51 am  
**To:** Stephen Day <stephen.day@herengaanuku.govt.nz>  
**Cc:** Phil Culling <phil.culling@herengaanuku.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** FW: [REDACTED]



**Lili Nicholl**

Corporate Services Assistant  
Outdoor Access Commission  
0272520149

*I work part-time and variable hours, and will respond to enquiries as soon as possible.*



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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 21 May 2026 11:24 am  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** [REDACTED]

Kia ora,

[REDACTED] requests the following under the Official Information Act.

- What Artificial Intelligence is your Ministry considering implementing in the next year?
- What aspects or parts of the business will it be implemented? ie how will the AI be used
- Will it's implementation reduce the workload or staff numbers?
- What safety and security protocols has it had to pass to be considered acceptable for implementation?

Can all responses please be in a fully searchable and copyable format

Please provide documents where sought, and not statements.

Please do not refuse on grounds of proactive release is imminent; however, if you do, pls take note of the Ombudsman's guidance that, "As a matter of good practice, agencies should provide the precise or approximate date by which the information will be published" to the OIA requester.

I ask anything within the spirit of the request be included in the response.

Please get back to me with any queries within 7 working days; pls advise of any need to transfer any of these questions anywhere, within 7 working days.

Let me know if you have any questions, thanks in advance

Noho ora mai rā

[REDACTED]

# Artificial Intelligence Policy

20 August 2024

This policy ensures that Herenga ā Nuku uses artificial intelligence (AI) technologies ethically and responsibly. The use of AI systems should not undermine privacy, security, transparency, or accountability.

Herenga ā Nuku will encourage the use of AI as a tool that can enhance our work, but implement it cautiously. The chief executive will decide whether and how to implement any new use of artificial intelligence in our work. In each instance, the chief executive will consider the privacy implications and whether the use of AI is necessary and proportionate.

## Principles:

1. **Privacy and Security:** Herenga ā Nuku will not share, store, or process any personal or confidential data within any AI systems. Recognising the potential vulnerability to security problems posed by AI systems, Herenga ā Nuku will prioritise robust security measures to protect data from unauthorised access or breaches.
2. **Transparency:** Herenga ā Nuku's use of AI systems in our work will be transparent, and stakeholders should be informed about its use, where relevant. Clear communication regarding the purpose, scope, and implications of AI use will be provided to stakeholders to foster trust and understanding.
3. **Accountability:** Where staff use AI systems, they are responsible for addressing the errors and biases that the systems generate. Any AI-generated material will be reviewed, proofed, and edited by human staff or contractors before being used or shared.
4. **Training and Ethics:** Herenga ā Nuku will train our team effectively and ensure that AI is used ethically. Staff and contractors using AI should receive guidance on ethical considerations, best practices, and potential risks associated with AI technologies. Ethical considerations will be integrated into AI decision-making processes to uphold fairness and honesty.
5. **Cybersecurity:** Given AI systems' increased susceptibility to cyber threats, Herenga ā Nuku will prioritise cybersecurity measures to safeguard our systems and data. Herenga ā Nuku will implement robust cybersecurity protocols, including

regular risk assessments, encryption, access controls, and intrusion detection systems.

6. **Risk Assessment:** Herenga ā Nuku will conduct thorough risk assessments to evaluate the risks and benefits of using AI in our organisation. Special attention will be given to potential impacts on people's privacy and security. Decisions will prioritise the protection of individual rights and data.

#### **Background Resources:**

- Privacy Commissioner - [Artificial Intelligence and the IPPs](#) and [Privacy Commissioner outlines expectations around AI use](#), emphasising compliance with privacy regulations and standards.
- Price Waterhouse Coopers - [Artificial intelligence: What directors need to know](#): Insights on the governance and oversight of AI technologies to ensure responsible implementation.
- OECD - [The main policy issues that surround AI](#): Examination of key policy considerations and frameworks surrounding AI deployment to promote ethical and accountable use.
- University of Otago - [Centre for Artificial Intelligence and Public Policy](#): Resources and expertise to support the ethical development and deployment of AI technologies in the public sector.
- Digital Government NZ - [Interim Generative AI guidance for the public service](#) for further insights into implementing AI responsibly within the public service.