



New Zealand Loyal
C/- Brenton Faithfull (Party President)



9 May 2025

The Banking Ombudsman
Banking Ombudsman Scheme
PO Box 25341
Wellington 6146

Dear Banking Ombudsman,

Re: Denial of Banking Services to New Zealand Loyal Party

I am writing to bring to your attention the difficulties faced by the New Zealand Loyal Party in obtaining banking services. Despite repeated attempts, we have been rejected by ASB, Kiwibank, and Nelson Building Society. The reasons provided for these rejections have been varied and, in our opinion, unjustified.

The party's de-registration was a result of a violation of its constitution, and we have been working towards re-registration. However, the lack of banking facilities has hindered our ability to maintain memberships and conduct party activities. We believe that this is a human rights issue, as banking is an essential service in today's digital age.

We are particularly concerned about the labelling of certain individuals as "politically exposed individuals" without any valid reason or explanation. This label seems to be used as a pretext for denying us banking services. We would like to know the specific legislative basis for this concern and how it applies to our situation.

The banks have cited Anti-Money Laundering (AML) legislation as a reason for rejection. However, we believe that this legislation was intended to combat terrorism financing and criminal offending, not to discriminate against certain individuals or organizations. We have provided all required documentation to satisfy the banks' requirements, including personal details of all board members, despite most of them not being signatories to the account.

We believe that the denials are not based on any legitimate risk assessment but rather a deliberate attempt to shut us out. This raises concerns about the banks' compliance with the Human Rights Act 1993 and the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990.

We request that you investigate this matter and provide guidance on the banks' obligations under the relevant legislation. Specifically, we would like to know:

1. What is the legislative basis for labelling individuals as "politically exposed individuals," and how does it apply to our situation?
2. How do the banks' risk assessments comply with the AML legislation, and what specific risks are they trying to mitigate?
3. What are the banks' obligations under the Human Rights Act 1993 and the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 in relation to providing essential services?

We believe that this matter has significant implications for the democratic process and the rights of New Zealand citizens. We look forward to your response and assistance in resolving this matter.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Brenton Faithful
President
New Zealand Loyal Party

Enclosed: Communications with banks.