

28 August 2013

Alex Harris
fyi-request-1032-5e95a7f6@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Alex

Official Information Act request 80/ 2013 – Christine Rankin

I am writing in response to your request under the Official Information Act 1982.

You have requested: *“any communications or advice on the compatibility of Rankin’s political activities with her role as a state servant. In particular I am interested in whether Rankin informed the Commission of her intention to take up these positions, and any advice the Commission gave her about managing the conflict of interest.”*

We have no record that the Families Commission was aware of any additional conflicts of interest apart from those disclosed by Ms Rankin between 2009 and 2011.

While the register of interests is a standard agenda item updated at each Board meeting, the Families Commission was not aware of Ms Rankin’s political party involvement prior to Monday 6 May 2013. On that date Ms Rankin emailed the interim Chief Commissioner and advised that she would be acting as the Chief Executive of the Conservative Party. A copy of the email is attached.

Ms Rankin’s term ended shortly after this date so we did not provide advice on managing this issue.

Finally please note that Ms Rankin was a board member and not a state servant. This means she was subject to the disclosure requirements for board members under the Crown Entities Act, rather than the compatibility requirements for state servants under the Code of Conduct.

Please contact me if you require any further information.

You have the right to ask The Ombudsman to review this response. Their contact details are as follow: website: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz, e-mail: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or PO Box 10-152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely



Clare Ward
Chief Executive

From: Christine Rankin [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 6 May 2013 6:32 p.m.
To: Belinda Milnes
Subject: contract

Hi Belinda. [REDACTED] Just out of courtesy I am letting you know that my company has a contract with The Conservatives for me to act as the CE until Around September. I wouldn't normally let you know about TLCs contracts but as this is a political party of which I am a board member I thought I should. Feel free to call if this causes any concern. Regards Christine

Christine Rankin
Director, Transformational Leadership Company

Please note my email address has changed to:

[REDACTED]

Released under the Official Information Act 1982