

19 September 2019

Mr James Hammond

By email: fyi-request-10843-c4c5c79b@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear James

Official information request for information related to Katharine Jermyn Hall

I refer to your request for information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) dated 30 July 2019:

“I am making an OIA request for the Financial Statements regarding Katharine Jermyn Hall for 2018, and documents regarding correspondence between the University and Compass (the catering provider) regarding Food quality in 2019.”

The University does not produce financial statements for each halls of residence. Therefore, this portion of your request is refused under section 18(e) of the Act as *“the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist”*. While the University cannot provide the requested information, I can tell you that \$4.5 million was spent on the catering contract for all of the University’s halls of residence in 2018. A portion of this provided 2,199 students with a total of 670,346 meals.

In relation to your request for documents regarding correspondence between the University and Compass Catering, the University completed a search and discovered over 250 pages of documents and correspondence between the University and Compass related to Katharine Jermyn Hall (KJH). While the University has received five formal complaints about the food quality issues at KJH it has, however, responded to concerns raised by staff as is evidenced by the quantity of information relating to this request. While this information is not all relevant to your request, University staff would be required to retrieve, extract, and compile the relevant information from these documents. The University did extend the timeframe for your request as it necessitated a search through a large quantity of information. However, once that search was completed, we knew that the work required to provide a response would have a significant and unreasonable impact on the University’s ability to carry out its other operations. Due to the substantial amount of work that would be required, the University has decided to refuse this portion of your request under section 18(f) of the Act.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact me at oiarequests@vuw.ac.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "G Tawharu". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Georgia Tawharu

Adviser, Information Access and Copyright