



1 October 2014

Mr Drummond
Email: fyi-request-1981-a0a7b751@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Drummond

Official Information Act Request List of Subjects for Information Requests Made to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

I refer to your information request of 3 September 2014 for "*a list of the subjects of requests to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, made under the Official Information Act within the last 5 years, that were complied with within twenty working days of receipt. Specifically, where information was given out within twenty working days. In response, I would like a list comprising the date of receipt, the date of compliance, and the subject the OIA request [sic].*"

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) includes all Official Information Act requests on a register. The requests are logged by due date and there are processes in place to ensure that all requests are complied with in terms of the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). As per the OIA, responses to some requests release information as requested within a short period of up to twenty working days, others release some information and withhold some information, some withhold all relevant information and some requests are transferred either in full or in part to other relevant agencies or Ministerial Offices. In addition, extensions of time are needed for some requests to enable material to be collated and/or consultations to take place and there are some requests that are declined for administrative reasons (such as the information already being publicly available). All of these different approaches comply with the OIA.

While we monitor the date each request is sent to ensure that responses are within legislative deadlines, there is no breakdown of the registers of OIA requests in terms of the nature of reply sent and no easy way to identify those that have "*complied with within twenty working days of receipt*" and where all requested information was provided. To provide a list as you have requested would require assessing all five years of requests to determine the nature of the response for each request. I believe to compile a list as you have requested would take a substantial amount of time by relevant staff.

Accordingly, your request is declined under section 18(f) of the Official Information Act "*that the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.*" In reaching this decision, I first considered the factors contained in sections 18A(1) and 18B of the Official Information Act. However, I did not consider that taking any of these steps would allow the request to be answered.

You are entitled to ask the Ombudsman to review this response under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Anne Shaw', with a stylized, cursive script.

Anne Shaw
Director – Office of the Chief Executive