



10 October 2014

Mr Joshua Grainger

By email: fyi-request-2041-54ae4fb2@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Grainger

Legal aid applications for the prerogative of mercy

Thank you for your email of 23 September 2014, in which you request information on the number of legal aid applications received for the prerogative of mercy in the last 5 years and how many were granted legal aid.

Your request has been referred to me and is being managed in accordance with the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

As Legal Aid Services does not keep a specific record of these applications, the following is the best information we have been able to obtain without substantial collation. For the period 23 September 2009 to 23 September 2014, 16 legal aid applications were received for the Royal prerogative of mercy. Of those applications:

- five were granted aid
- one has aid granted on an interim basis to allow further information to be provided before a decision is made
- 10 were declined aid, however two of these were granted aid on an interim basis before the applications were declined.

I trust that this information satisfies your request.

Yours sincerely

Michele McCreadie

General Manager, Legal Aid Services