



OIA22-0727

27 SEP 2022

Whistler King  
fyi-request-20492-4393a7bd@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Whistler King

Thank you for your email of 8 September 2022 requesting information relating to the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) relationship policy. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

You requested the following:

- *Does the Ministry for Primary Industries allow romantic relationships between managers and their staff?*
- *Does the Ministry for Primary Industries have a policy in place to deal with office romances in the work place?*
- *If there is a policy I would like a copy of this. If there is no policy how does the Ministry for Primary Industries look after staff that are in relationships between their managers?*

As per MPI's organisational guidelines, in the case of personal relationships and affiliations, the judgement to disclose these will typically depend on the closeness of the relationship and the degree to which MPI's decisions or activities could affect them.

If a relationship is declared it is managed through the processes outlined in MPI's conflict of interest organisational guidelines. This may include a change of reporting line or team, though each is managed on a case-by-case basis. Please find a copy of these guidelines attached as Appendix One.

I trust the information provided is of assistance. Should you have any concerns with this response, I would encourage you to raise these with the Ministry for Primary Industries at [Official.InformationAct@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:Official.InformationAct@mpi.govt.nz). Alternatively, you are advised of your right to also raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. Contact details are: Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143 or at [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz).

Yours sincerely

Kaye Ryan  
Director, People & Capability

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