



**Te Tari Taiwhenua
Internal Affairs**

20 February 2023

Ministerial Services
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Craig Innes
fyi-request-20797-de46f47e@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Craig Innes

Request for information (OIA 2223-0291)

On 31 October 2022 the Department informed you of the extension of its response timeframe, to 20 February 2023, in relation to your request for information under section 15(A) of the Official Information Act (Act).

The extension was required to enable the Department to:

- undertake a search of large volumes of email records belonging to former Justice Ministers Hon Andrew Little and Hon Kris Faafoi, as well as former Associate Justice Minister Hon Willie Jackson and to identify information that falls within the scope of your request; and
- to provide Ministers with an opportunity to determine whether the information identified, if any, constitutes official information for release.

Your request of 8 October 2022 requested the following:

On 18 January 2022 a request for information relating to the issues of workplace bullying and sexual harassment at the Ministry of Justice was made under the Official Information Act 1982 to Kris Faafoi. The request for the information was refused.

After discussion with the Office of the Ombudsman, a fresh set of requests is hereby being made.

This is a request for information under the Official Information Act 1982 from the following agencies:

The Ministry of Justice

The Office of the Minister of Justice

Department of Internal Affairs

The Office of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

The information requested is all information relating to the issue of workplace bullying and sexual harassment occurring within the Waitangi Tribunal Unit (the body within the Ministry of Justice that provides administrative and support services to the Waitangi Tribunal -not the Waitangi Tribunal itself), since 2017.

This request includes all the papers or documents relating to each respective Minister of Justice and Associate Minister of Justice since 2017.

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Response to your request

Having reviewed the email records of the former Justice Ministers and former Associate Justice Minister from 2017 to 2022 in accordance with the process outlined above, the Department is refusing your request under the following section of the Act:

18(e) that the document alleged to contain the information does not exist.

We intend to publish this OIA response on www.dia.govt.nz (with your personal details having been removed). Publishing responses to OIA requests increases the availability of information to the public and is consistent with the purpose of the Act to enable effective participation in the making and administration of laws and policies, and to promote the accountability of Ministers and officials.

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.

Yours sincerely



Briget Ridden

General Manager – Ministerial Services

Te Haumi – Enterprise Partnerships

Te Tari Taiwhenua – The Department of Internal Affairs