



9 October 2014

Jason Hewings

fyi-request-2090-c4155cc8@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: OIA 0517

Dear Mr Hewings,

Thank you for your email of 9 October 2014 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

- *Since 2009 have there been any cases of the Insolvency and Trustee Services seizing property and assets located abroad from those New Zealanders who went bankrupt. Of special interest is those New Zealanders who went bankrupt for the sole purpose of wiping their outstanding student loan obligations to the Inland Revenue Department.*
- *Please provide the number of cases where the IRD was the sole debtor in bankruptcy cases where overseas assets and properties were seized and in which country the assets were seized. I am interested to see how this has changed over the last five years.*
- *Could you also provide the legal mechanism or process for other sovereign governments to cooperate with the relevant New Zealand ministries involved in recouping this student debt. I.e. How does the relevant government ministry go about getting a bankrupt debtor to pay their debts when bankrupt in New Zealand but living abroad?*

Your request is being processed in accordance with the Official Information Act 1982. If you have any enquiries regarding your request, you may contact us via email at uia@mbie.govt.nz or

Alan Witcombe
Manager, Ministerial Services
Organisational Strategy and Support
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment
PO Box 3705
Wellington 6140

Your email was received on 9 October 2014 and a response will be sent to you as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

Alan Witcombe
Manager, Ministerial Services
Organisational Strategy and Support

