

15 June 2015

Liam Stoneley
fyi-request-2457-c5475175@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Stoneley

Official Information Act request – secondments of private sector legal staff into the Ministry

Thank you for your email of 15 May 2015 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, information regarding secondments of private sector legal staff into the Ministry of Justice.

Specifically, you asked for the following information

1. *Have there been ANY secondments between the MoJ and legal-related institutions since 2008?*

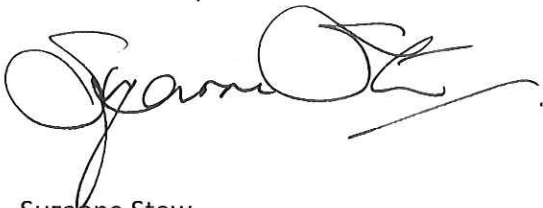
I am aware of examples of lawyers in private practice working on-site to assist the Ministry for an extended period on a particular project. However, they are not seconded to the Ministry in the sense of being temporarily employed by the Ministry - typically, they continue to be employed by their firm, which in turn charges the Ministry a fee for their services.

2. *If so, what was the cost to the New Zealand tax payer?*

We do not centrally record information on the types of arrangements referred to in the response to question 1. To identify individual cases and the cost of those since 2005 would involve substantial collation and research and therefore I have refused this part of your request under section 18(f) of the Act.

You have the right, under s 28(3) of the Act, to complain to the Ombudsman about this response.

Yours sincerely



Suzanne Stew
Deputy Secretary, Corporate