

30 October 2015

Shane Gibson  
C/- FYI

[fyi-request-3194-762021d7@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-3194-762021d7@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Mr Gibson

Thank you for your request dated 2 October 2015, for information about requests received by the Ministry of Education under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Your request has been considered in accordance with the Act.

The system we have historically used to file Official Information Act requests is focused on document storage rather than reporting and the production of lists. This means we are unable to generate historic lists showing the information you have asked for. To compile such a list, we would need to check individual request records, extract information and then tabulate the fields that you have asked about. We would need to do this for several thousand requests going back to 2009.

I have considered whether charging for the information, or extending the timeframe for the response, would enable me to provide the information. However, the amount of work involved is impracticable. Your request is therefore declined under section 18(f) of the Act as the information cannot be made available without substantial collation and research.

I can confirm that the Ministry has approximately 100 Official Information Act requests underway at any given time. With regard to the date a request is received and the date a final response is sent, the Ministry takes seriously its obligation in accordance with the Act to answer requests as soon as is practicable, and to meet the statutory timeframe. The requests we receive cover a very wide range of Ministry activities. Where there is a significant level of public interest in a topic, we aim to release key documents on our web site on the following link: <http://www.education.govt.nz/ministry-of-education/information-releases/>

You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review my response to your request. Contact details are: [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely



Steve Groom  
**Group Manager, Government, Executive and Ministerial Support**