

PO Box 12–141 Wellington 6144

27 January 2017

Cody C fyi.org.nz

Dear Cody

Thank you for your email of 29 November 2016 to Education Payroll Limited (EPL) requesting the following information:

I am requesting the legislation, policies or other media that allows Education Payroll Limited, trading as Novopay, to recover overpayments / debts from wages paid to education staff erroneously in accordance with the Official Information Act 1982.

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982.

EPL is a Crown owned company listed in Schedule 4A of the Public Finance Act 1989. EPL provides the schools payroll on contract to the Ministry of Education.

The schools payroll is funded through a Crown appropriation to the Ministry of Education and therefore any erroneous payments are debts to the Crown.

EPL recovers overpayments on behalf of the Ministry of Education and must use all appropriate avenues of recovery to collect debts, which may include the use of a debt collection agency in the recovery process. Recovery of overpayments is carried out in accordance with the Public Finance Act 1989 and other relevant legislation, such as the Wages Protection Act 1983, the Judicature Act 1908 and the Limitation Act 2010.

You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely

Stephen Crombie
Chief Executive