

31 January 2013

National Office

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Maria-Jane Brodie
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Dear Ms Brodie

Thank you for your email of 27 November 2012 requesting the following information:

- *A breakdown of payroll error rates and statistics since the implementation of Novopay, broken down by pay period;*
- *Specifically: The number of underpayments and overpayments made each pay period, broken down into gross dollar value bands in increments of \$1000 (e.g. overpayments \$0-\$999, overpayments \$1000-\$1999, underpayments \$0-\$999, etc);*
- *If it is possible to further break these down into occupational grouping that would be fantastic, however if this isn't possible, dollar value bands are sufficient;*
- *The number of staff employed by Ministry of Education during each of these pay periods;*
- *A breakdown of numbers of underpayments and overpayments by reason: entering error at the schools' end, processing error by the Novopay payroll team, system error;*
- *Number of staff members who have had errors over multiple pays. E.g.: number of staff with a total of 0 pay periods with an error, number of staff with a total of 1 pay periods with an error, number of staff with a total of 2 pay periods with an error, etc.*

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

Response

On 1 February 2012, the Ministry will be proactively making available a large number of documents relating to the Novopay project. These may be found at: www.minedu.govt.nz/NovopayProject. You will also find a section setting out Novopay statistics. The Ministry will continue to add documents as these become available and will be updating statistical information regularly.

The Ministry does not hold the following information you have requested:

- *The number of underpayments and overpayments made each pay period, broken down into gross dollar value bands in increments of \$1000;*
- *The number of underpayments and overpayments made each pay period, broken down into occupational grouping;*
- *A breakdown of numbers of underpayments by reason: entering error at the schools' end, processing error by the Novopay payroll team, system error;*
- *Number of staff members who have had errors over multiple pays.*

This is because the Novopay system does not collate payment errors in the way you have requested.

Therefore this part of your request is refused under section 18(g) of the Act as the information requested is not held by the department or Minister of the Crown or organisation, and the Ministry has no grounds for believing that the information is either:

- (i) held by another department or Minister of the Crown or organisation, or by a local authority; or
- (ii) connected more closely with the functions of another department or Minister of the Crown or organisation or of a local authority.

Under sections 19 and 28(3) of the Official Information Act 1982 you have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision.

Yours sincerely



Rebecca Elvy
Group Manager Education Workforce