



26 March 2018

Reference: OIA-2017/18-0389

Jem Traylen
Email: fyi-request-7274-9b008d70@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Jem Traylen

Official Information Act request for the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's latest whole-of-agency engagement report

I refer to your Official Information Act request, transferred in part to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) on 27 February 2018, which asked:

"Please provide the latest whole-of-agency engagement reports for each of the Central Agencies."

We have interpreted the part of your request that was transferred to DPMC to be for DPMC's latest report of its survey of staff climate and engagement. The survey of DPMC staff engagement was carried out in 2016.

Please find enclosed a copy of the 2016 report "Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet Engagement & Climate Report". Some information has been withheld where comments from individual DPMC staff have been quoted either in response to open-ended questions or in response to an invitation to provide additional comments. As these surveys provide an opportunity to voice their feedback and opinions to the organisation, there is the possibility that individual staff members may be identified and linked to the comments made, or perceive that they are identifiable. Staff undertook the survey anonymously and in confidence. To release the withheld information would likely impact on staff willingness to fully participate in engagement surveys in the future. It is in the public interest that DPMC is able to receive such feedback from its staff to identify what is working well and areas for improvement. Accordingly, these individual comments have been withheld under the following sections of the Official Information Act:

- section 9(2)(a) to "*protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.*"
- section 9(2)(ba)(i) to "*protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied.*"

No public interest in releasing the withheld information has been identified that would be sufficient to override the reasons for withholding it.

You are entitled to ask the Ombudsman to review this response under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act. You can contact the Ombudsman online via the Ombudsman website, by email (info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by post to The Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143. Further details can be found on the Ombudsman website at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'K Jones', is written over a faint, light blue circular stamp or watermark.

Karen Jones
Director, Office of the Chief Executive