



## Office of Hon Steven Joyce

Minister for Economic Development  
Minister of Science and Innovation  
Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment  
Associate Minister of Finance

7 February 2013

Mr Robert Dunn  
fyi-request-749-275e127d@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Robert Dunn

On behalf of Hon Steven Joyce, Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment, thank you for your email of 1 February 2013, received on 1 February 2013, requesting, under the Official Information Act:

*1: Could you please provide anonymous raw data of students who at the time of the law change to disallow postgraduate study to receive the student allowance were currently enrolled in PhD programmes and receiving the student allowance. Preferably, this detail would include the information on how many years each student had claimed the allowance and when they first enrolled in the PhD program.*

*If anonymous raw data is not available, please provide on the numbers of students studying PhDs who were utilizing the student allowance scheme at the date when the law was changed.*

*2: Could you please also provide the research or report that outlines the governments justification to remove student allowance assistance from students in the middle of a degree program instead of allowing them to finish the degree with assistance and only denying this support to newly started degrees. If this research was not done, please confirm that the government did not consider this group of people separately.*

*3: Could you please also provide the details on the models used to fund universities in New Zealand. What are the key performance indicators (KPIs) used to determine university teaching quality and funding. Specifically, I am interested in any KPIs related to enrollments, paper pass rate and degree completion rates. PBRF and Research KPIs are less important. Please also provide the numbers for these KPIs for universities in New Zealand from 2000-2012.*

The Minister will consider your request and respond appropriately in due course.

Yours sincerely

Jane Chirnside  
Private Secretary