Bowen State Building, Bowen Street, Wellington 6011, PO Box 1556, Wellington 6140 • Telephone: 0-4-'16 3300 • Facsimile: 0-4-918 0099

2 2 APR 2013

Mr David Burgess
fyi-request-828-0ce266ba@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Burgess

Thank you for your email of 11 April 2013 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

- *At what level is a request for the supply of personal information approved?*
- *Is an audit process used to ensure personal information is not supplied when it should have been withheld?*
- *If there is such a process, what is it?*
- *Is the customers consent required before information is released?*
- *If any information is released on the basis that the requester assures you that they hold the customers consent, how often is this audited and what is the audit process?*
- *Does your management require any kind of reporting on the release of personal information to private agencies? If so, what data is provided to management?*

In the Ministry's response to your previous request under the Official Information Act, dated 10 April 2013, you were advised that the Ministry approaches debt collection and credit agencies as part of our business as usual activities. Regular contact is made with both debt collection and credit agencies for a variety of purposes including detecting fraud and recovering debt. Contact with debt collection and credit agencies enables Ministry staff to carry out their work more efficiently.

These actions occur either with the consent of the individual concerned or in accordance with legislation.

To be clear, debt collection and credit agencies do not request personal information about staff or clients from the Ministry.

At this stage the Ministry is unable to respond to your new request without further clarification from you. Please contact me on 04 916 3855 to discuss your request.

Yours sincerely

Elisabeth Brunt
General Manager Ministerial and Executive Services

child, youth and family
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family & community services
ratonga ā-whānau, ā-hapori

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