

# Office of Hon Phil Twyford

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**MP for Te Atatu**

Minister of Housing and Urban Development

Minister of Transport



30 January 2018

Matthew Hooton  
fyi-request-9210-eabc9b51@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Hooton

Thank you for your email of 8 December 2018 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*I request all correspondence and information help by you or your office staff on the reasons, circumstances and terms of Stephen Barclay's departure as CEO of KiwiBuild.*

*For each piece of information, I further request when you or your staff first became aware of it.*

I do not hold any correspondence related to Stephen Barclay's departure from the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (MHUD). Therefore, I am refusing your request under section 18(e) of the Act as "the information requested does not exist".

However, I can tell you that on 31 October and in early November 2018 I was verbally advised at a high level that there was an ongoing employment matter, and informed of his absence.

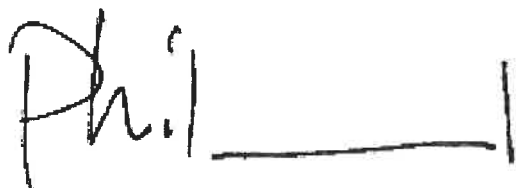
On 19 November 2018 my advisor, Shayne Misselbrook, met with Brad Ward, Head of the Chief Executive's Office at MHUD to discuss potential publicity concerning Stephen's absence.

Subsequent to this meeting my staff met with Andrew Crisp, Chief Executive of MHUD at my office and my staff had several phone calls with Mr Ward and/or Mr Crisp about the publicity arising from Stephen's absence, however the dates and times were not recorded, and no notes were taken specifically relating to his absence or the employment matter.

At all times the Chief Executive was clear that this was an employment matter between the State Service Commission, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, the Chief Executive and one of his employees. Officials did not provide me with any specific details surrounding this issue.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of my decision by the Ombudsman, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on the Ombudsman's website [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Phil" followed by a long horizontal line and a vertical stroke at the end, resembling a stylized "T" or a signature flourish.

Hon Phil Twyford  
**Minister of Housing and Urban Development**