Te Kawa Mataaho
Public Service Commission

14 August 2025

9(2)(a) privacy

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Official Information Request
Our Ref: OIA 2025-0024

I refer to your official information request received on 25 July 2025 for:

Pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982, I request the following information held on record since 23 November 2023 regarding the disestablishment of the Public Service Commission's Integrity and Ethics Advisory Board.

1. *Copies of correspondence (including but not limited to letters, emails, text messages, and WhatsApp messages) exchanged between the Public Service Commission and any Ministerial office regarding the disestablishment of the Public Service Commission's Integrity and Ethics Advisory Board.*
2. *Records of any consultation conducted with stakeholders, including but not limited to internal staff briefings, union engagement, public servants, external or unpaid advisers, or external feedback. Please include, all documents evidencing consultation with public servants, including workshops, engagement sessions, surveys, or pilot consultations.*
3. *Copies of all documents (including but not limited to briefs, proposals, cabinet papers, memos, or minutes) held by the Public Service Commission relating the disestablishment of the Public Service Commission's Integrity and Ethics Advisory Board.*
4. *Copies of all drafts, internal memos, emails, and minutes related to the disestablishment of the Public Service Commission's Integrity and Ethics Advisory Board.*
5. *Details of the decision-making process regarding the disestablishment of the Public Service Commission's Integrity and Ethics Advisory Board, including which departments, officials, Ministers, committees, or external advisers were involved.*
6. *Copies of any financial documents with projected cost implications or savings from the disestablishment of the Public Service Commission's Integrity and Ethics Advisory Board.*

Information does not exist

I am refusing parts one and six of your request under section 18(e) of the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) on the ground that the information does not exist.

In regard to part one, Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission (the Commission) does not have any correspondence with any Ministerial office regarding the disestablishment of the Public Service Commission's Integrity and Ethics Advisory Board (the Board).

In regard to part six, the Commission did not project future savings, as extending the Advisory Board's term was only ever a possibility. Over the 18-month term that the Board was operational, the Board met on four occasions during that time at a cost of $10,000 for the fees and expenses of external board members. There were also additional internal costs to the Commission that were not expressly calculated. These include the attendance of the Public Service Commissioner and the two Deputy Public Service Commissioners, and the Deputy Commissioner, Integrity at each of these meetings.

Information publicly available

The following information is covered by parts two – five of your requests and is publicly available on the Public Service Commission website here.

Accordingly, I have refused this part of your request under section 18(d) of the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) on the grounds the information requested is publicly available.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Enquiries@publicservice.govt.nz.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that we intend to publish this letter (with your personal details removed) on the Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission's website.

Yours sincerely

Nicky Dirks
Manager – Ministerial and Executive Services
Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission