



Te Kawa Mataaho

Public Service Commission

3 March 2025

9(2)(a) privacy

9(2)(a) privacy

Official Information Request

Our Ref: PSCR 2025-0174

I refer to your official information request received on 19 February 2025 for:

I was surprised that, in his speech at the 2025 New Zealand Economics Forum, the Public Service Commissioner, after a mere 12 weeks in his position, made sweeping comments on the state of the public sector, identified problems and proposed solutions. Could you please advise me what quantitative and qualitative analysis Sir Brian drew on in making his remarks, and send me a copy of that analysis.

Background information

The speech the Public Service Commissioner (the Commissioner), Sir Brian Roche, gave at the 2025 New Zealand Economics Forum was based on his own observations from speaking with Chief Executives, Ministers, Wellington and regionally-based public servants, and members of the public – coupled with his 36 years of career experience. Many of the Commissioner's observations reflect what chief executives have raised with him, what public servants in regional centres have identified as areas for improvement, and his own experiences in his first three months in the role.

Information does not exist

I am refusing your request under section 18(e) of the Official Information Act 1982 on the grounds that no document exists, which contain the Commissioner's quantitative or qualitative analysis used to inform the Commissioner's speech at the 2025 New Zealand Economics Forum.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nicky Dirks', with a stylized, cursive script.

Nicky Dirks

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