

18 March 2025

9(2)(a) privacy

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Official Information Request Our Ref: PSCR 2025-0231

I refer to your official information request received on 26 February 2025 for:

Under the Official Information Act 1982 I request the following information:

- 1. Have any complaints been received about the conduct or behaviour of a Minister or staff in a ministerial office by seconded agency staff, if so, on what dates, from whom and what was the nature of the complaint/s?
- 2. If any complaints have been received, what course of action did the Public Service Commission) take in response, including whether this was raised with the Minister, the Minister's office, the Prime Minister's Office or Ministerial Services?
- 3. Have there been any discussions between the Public Service Commission and Ministerial Services relating to behaviour or conduct of a Minister and seconded staff in their ministerial office between 27 November 2023 and 24 February 2025, if so, please break this down by month and Minister concerned.

Our response

During the period 27 November 2023 and 24 February 2025, Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission (the Commission) has not received any complaints from seconded agency staff about the conduct or behaviour of a Minister or staff in a ministerial office. The conduct of a Minister is a matter for the Prime Minister.

If a concern was raised with the Commission, we would work with the Chief Executive to resolve it and if the matter was of a serious nature, we would escalate it to the Minister for the Public Service or directly to the Prime Minister.

Accordingly, I have refused your request under section 18(e) of the OIA on the grounds the information does not exist.

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

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 <u>www.ombudsman.parliament.nz</u> or freephone 0800 802 602.

Level 10, RBNZ Building | 2 The Terrace | PO Box 329 Wellington 6140 | New Zealand Phone +64 4 495 6600 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

VO

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