



Te Kawa Mataaho

Public Service Commission

22 April 2025

9(2)(a) privacy

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Official Information Request Our Ref: PSCR 2025-0342

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

“...information and communication regarding the resignation of Dr Diana Sarfati as director-general of health.

Please supply:

- 1. Communications, including any formal letter of resignation, sent by Dr Sarfati to communicate her resignation.*
- 2. Communications between the ministry and ministers and the Public Service Commission regarding the resignation.*

For clarity:

- Communications include but are not limited to emails, text messages (or messages on other apps) and letters, addressed to or received by the ministry, health ministers, and director general regarding Dr Sarfati's position.*
- These communications could have been sent before Dr Sarfati's resignation, if they are in relation to the decision making or discussion about the position of chief executive / director-general of health.”*

Information not released

Under the Public Service Act 2020 (the Act), the Public Service Commissioner is responsible for appointing and employing the chief executives who head the departments of the Public Service.

Individual employment contracts of chief executives or letters of resignation are private and confidential to that individual. There are documents covered by your request that I have decided to withhold in full under section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act 1982 in order to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people.

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the OIA and do not consider the public interest outweighs the need to withhold the information.

Information not held

Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission does not hold “communications between the ministry and ministers and the Public Service Commission regarding the resignation.”

I am therefore refusing this part of 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 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