

17 May 2018



Dear [REDACTED]

Official information request about Pink Shirt Day

Our ref: SSC2018/0076

Thank you for your official information request received on 14 May 2018 as follows:

*Noting your workstream on Diversity and Inclusion,
What is the SSC doing to encourage state agencies to participate in Pink Shirt Day?*

The State Services Commission recognises that New Zealand's State services need to value, reflect and understand the communities we serve.

To do this, we are growing the diversity of our workforce and leadership while also lifting the inclusion of our workplaces. We are working alongside other government agencies to collaborate on diversity and inclusion issues, as well as support chief executives in creating a diverse and inclusive State sector.

We regularly communicate formally and informally with agencies via our Diversity and Inclusion Network, updating them on events such as Pink Shirt Day and encouraging agency participation. We had an update to members scheduled this week which included an item promoting Pink Shirt Day.

Here at SSC all staff have been included in communications promoting Pink Shirt Day.

We are also aware that agencies across the State sector are similarly planning their own activities for this day. Some examples include:

- a bake sale to raise money for a local community group for people identifying as transgender, intersex and gender-diverse
- a shared lunch fundraiser to highlight bullying issues
- a large agency's Rainbow Network that is partnering to combine Pink Shirt Day with International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia. Volunteers will be distributing relevant content. There will be a video playing on the agency's intranet which will include members from their queer community answering the question: "What do you hope staff would do differently because of Pink Shirt Day?"

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact Ministerial.Services@ssc.govt.nz.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this response. 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 State Services Commission's website.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephen Moore'.

Stephen Moore
Managing Principal
State Services Commission