AIDE-MEMOIRE



[IN CONFIDENCE]

Ministerial Briefing on agency OIA Statistics January-June 2018

Date:

3 September 2018

For:

Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of State Services

Report No:

SSC2018/892

Ministerial Briefing on agency OIA statistics January – June 2018

Purpose

This paper informs you of the forthcoming 5th September release of the OIA statistics of 112 State service agencies for the period January – June 2018.

Minister

Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister for State Services

Background

SSC has published OIA statistics covering Crown entities and government departments' performance since the 2015/2016 year. Initially published on an annual basis, this is the second six monthly release of OIA statistics for 112 agencies and covers the period January – June 2018.

The OIA statistics comprise the number of OIA requests completed; timeliness to respond; published responses; complaints to the Ombudsman; and complaints upheld by the Ombudsman.

The OIA statistics will be published on 5 September 2018.

OIA Performance

The latest statistics show 112 agencies collectively completed 23,733 requests in the January to June 2018 period. This was an 11.8% increase in requests from the previous six months period, July to December 2017.

Agencies responded to 22,202 or 93.5% of requests on time. This represents a 1.8 percentage point decrease on timeliness from the previous period, which is disappointing.

Attached are copies of:

- the OIA statistics to be published; and
- graphs of the statistical data.

Public service departments continue to improve. Sixty two of 112 agencies achieved 100% timeliness in this period.

There were mixed results from the DHBs. Overall DHBs have been making good progress over time. In particular, Nelson Marlborough, Wairarapa and Waitemata DHBs achieved 100% timeliness over the last 12 months. However, some DHBs are not performing so well, either not maintaining or improving on their previous 6 months results. Seven

DHBs achieved less than 90% timeliness.

The State Services Commissioner is writing to the Director-General of Health, asking him to speak to Board Chairs about the need for greater focus and improvement on their OIA results.

Police and EQC dealt with 43.2% of the OIA responses. Police and ECQ accounted for 58.6% of responses not completed on time. Prior to the latest results, both agencies had been making positive progress in their timeliness.

Other statistics of note are that:

- 62 agencies reported 100% of requests completed within the legislated timeframe (up from 57 in the previous 6 months, and 32 in 2015/16);
- Twenty eight agencies published a total of 437 OIA responses on the websites, up from 16 agencies at December 2017;
- Two hundred and eighty six complaints to the Ombudsman were notified to agencies, representing 1.2% of all completed requests; and
- The Ombudsman made 56 final rulings against agencies, which represents 0.2% of OIA requests received by agencies.

Media

The release of the OIA statistics for the 6 months from January – June 2018 will attract some media interest. Attached is the State Service Commissioner's draft media statement. We will work with your office as required.

Recommendations We recommend that:

note the OIA statistics and the attached material;
Agree/disagree.

 agree to forward a copy of this briefing to the Prime Minister's Office for their information;

Agree/disagree.

 agree to release this aide-memoire in full once it has been considered by you and the OIA statistics have been published on 5 September;

Agree/disagree.

Hon Chris Hipkins

Minister of State Services

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Standard