

STATE SERVICES COMMISSION
TŪ KAWA MAĀTAHI



Official Information Forum August 2019

State Services Commission

Agenda

Welcome

Catherine Williams, Deputy Commissioner, Integrity, Ethics and Standards, SSC

Accessibility – why is it important and what should your agency be doing?

Jason Kiss, Government Information Services, DIA

Workshop - monitoring and reporting of proactive release, and review of the Cabinet paper policy

Stephen Moore, Integrity, Ethics and Standards, SSC

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Monitoring and reporting of proactive release, and review of the Cabinet paper policy

Stephen Moore
Integrity, Ethics and Standards

Report back on the Cabinet paper policy

Cabinet asked for the policy to be reviewed, with input from agencies, including whether:

- the objectives of the policy are being met
- changes are required to improve the effectiveness and clarity of the policy and the supporting procedures, and
- the policy should be broadened in any way.

Following the review, an ongoing monitoring regime and reporting of proactive release statistics is to be formalised

Objectives of the policy

To establish a process for the proactive release of more government information (to increase its availability, enable more effective public participation and promote the accountability of Ministers and officials)

- ensuring New Zealand does not fall behind other jurisdictions on proactive release practices
- reducing or changing the nature of OIA requests
- enhancing New Zealand's reputation for being transparent and open

Review of the policy

- Has it resulted in any policy or process changes in the way your agency prepares or proactively releases information?
- Has your agency seen a change to the number or nature of OIA requests received?
- What challenges have you experienced in meeting the release expectations of the policy?
- Is there any additional guidance or support required?
- Are there any areas where the policy needs to be changed, or you could see it being extended?

Monitoring and reporting of proactive release statistics

- What information do agencies already hold?
 - number of releases, types of material, dedicated publication location or dispersed model?
- How should it be collated and reported?
 - centrally (similar to OIA stats), or independently reported by agencies?
- Frequency and possible metrics
 - balancing meaningful information with compliance burden

Next Fora – dates for your diaries

Wednesday 9 October 2019 @ SSC

Introduction for new OI practitioners – principles, training resources and networks for those new to this area of work

Monday 11 November 2019 @ Ministry of Education

Look ahead to the 2020 work programme

Other agenda items TBC

Here to help

- If you need advice or assistance contact the team on OIAForum@ssc.govt.nz
- Or check out the online resources: <http://ssc.govt.nz/official-information>