



Te Kawa Mataaho

Public Service Commission

31 May 2021

9(2)(a) privacy

Dear 9(2)(a) privacy

Official Information Request Our Ref: OIA 2021-0041

I refer to your official information request received on 3 May 2021 for:

- *The current annual remuneration paid to each District Health Board CEO (as per their latest contract) - with a breakdown of salary and any other financial compensation provided.*
- *The current annual remuneration paid to director-general of health Ashley Bloomfield with a breakdown of salary and any other financial compensation provided.*
- *The current annual remuneration paid to Pharmac CEO Sarah Fitt - with a breakdown of salary and any other financial compensation provided.*
- *All memorandum, reports, emails, or any other documents held by the Public Service Commission, this year to date, relating to the restructure of DHB CEO and executive leadership under the new health reforms announced by Health Minister Andrew Little April 21.*

Information being released

As a general rule, information about an individual's employment, such as remuneration and salary information, is considered to be information private to that individual. There is an expectation that such information will not generally be disclosed (without prior agreement) in order to protect that person's privacy.

However, when this type of information is sought in relation to a chief executive(CE), it is generally accepted that the public interest in accountability for public expenditure is high. Consequently, this public interest may need to be recognised by the release of sufficient information to satisfy that public interest consideration.

Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission (the Commission) considers that specific information about any individual CE's remuneration package must be withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA to protect the CE's personal privacy. We consider that the public interest in accountability is met by the release of the total remuneration amount paid to CEs in its Senior Pay Reports, along with information about the way that remuneration is set and general information on the average increase in base salary for CEs.

Therefore, we are refusing this part of your request where you have asked for a breakdown of salary and other financial compensation provided under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA in order to protect the privacy of individuals.

Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission publishes Chief Executive Remuneration Disclosure information on our website. This includes total remuneration information for the Director General of Health and the Chief Executive of the Pharmaceutical Management Agency. Total remuneration includes base salary, employer contributions to superannuation, and any other benefits specified in employment agreements.

This information can be found at the link provided in the below table:

Item	Document Description	Website Address
1	Chief Executive Remuneration Disclosure	Chief Executive Remuneration Disclosure Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission

We are currently finalising the latest CE remuneration disclosure information for release soon. We will message you once it has been released and provide you with the link provided to the website location. We are therefore refusing this request under section 18(d) of the Official Information Act request on the grounds that the information requested will soon be publicly available.

In response to the part of your request asking for any documents held by the Commission relating to the restructure of DHB CEO and executive leadership under the new health reforms, for the period 1 January 2021 – 3 May 2021, the Commission has not identified any documents that fall within scope of this request. We are therefore refusing this part of your request under section 18(e) of the Official Information Act 1982, on the basis that the information requested does not exist.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Ministerial.Services@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
Managing Principal – Ministerial Services
Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission