



# Te Kawa Mataaho

Public Service Commission

16 September 2021

9(2)(a)  
privacy

Dear 9(2)(a) privacy

## Official Information Request

**Our Ref: OIA 2021-0118**

I refer to your official information request received on 24 August 2021 where you asked for:

- *the total amount of money in employment dispute payments paid out to employees in the public sector in 2020*
- *the core government department with the greatest number per capita of employment dispute payments in 2020*
- *for comparison, the total amount of money in employment dispute payments paid out in to public sector employees in 2014*
- *again for comparison, the core government department with the greatest number per capita of employment dispute payments in 2014.*

On receipt of your request, we emailed you and advised you that we do not hold the information requested for all public sector agencies and that you would need to contact each government agency you were interested in directly. We also advised that we would be progressing your request for information relating to Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission (the Commission).

### Information being released

As already outlined to you, the Commission does not hold information regarding employment dispute payments for all public sector agencies. We are therefore refusing parts two and four of your request under section 18(e) of the Official Information Act 1982, on the grounds that the information requested is not held by the Commission.

In response to parts one and three of your request we have interpreted employment dispute payments to mean a compensation payment under [s123 of the Employment Relations Act 2000](#). Our response excludes pay in lieu of notice, legal fees, contractual entitlements (such as annual leave) and agreed performance pay.

For the years 2020 and 2014, there have been no employment dispute payments made to employees of the Commission or Public Service Secretaries or Chief Executives, who are also the responsibility of the Public Service Commissioner.

We are therefore refusing these parts of your request under section 18(e) of the Official Information Act 1982, on the grounds that the information does not exist.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact [Ministerial.Services@publicservice.govt.nz](mailto: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](http://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**