

19 November 2019



Dear [REDACTED]

Official Information Request
Our Ref: SSCOIA 2019-0252

We refer to your official information request received on 6 November 2019 for:

“any information relating to the job performance of Secretary of the Treasury, Gabriel Makhlouf, and or his suitability for the job of Irish Central Bank Governor, provided to the Irish government, particularly in the form of reports, memos, emails or phone conversations.

I'm also seeking a special review/report of Gabriel Makhlouf's performance as Secretary of the Treasury prepared for and provided to the Irish government on or around June 26th 2019, possibly titled, "Review of the Incoming Central Bank Governor".

In response to your request, the State Services Commission (SSC) did not provide any information to the Irish government relating to the job performance of the previous Secretary to the Treasury, Gabriel Makhlouf or his suitability for the job of Irish Central Bank Governor.

You have also requested a copy of a report you believe is titled *“Review of the Incoming Central Bank Governor” prepared for and provided to the Irish government on or around 26 June 2019*”.

The SSC has not prepared and does not hold a report with this title, nor has it provided any such report at any time to the Irish government on this matter. Therefore, we are refusing your request in full under the following sections of the Official Information Act 1964 as applicable:

- section 18(e) – that the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist
- section 18(g)(i) that the information requested is not held by the department and we have no grounds for believing that the information is held by another department

If you wish to discuss this decision 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 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 State Services Commission's website.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nicky Dirks'.

Nicky Dirks
Managing Principal – Ministerial Services
State Services Commission