

Our ref: OIA 19 - 21

27 March 2019

██████████
Email: ██████████

Dear ██████████

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST – OIA COST ESTIMATES

I refer to your email dated 26 February 2019 sent to the State Services Commission, which was transferred to the Education Review Office on 11 March 2019 requesting the following:

- An approximate cost estimate of the average response to an OIA request across all central government agencies including NZ Police and NZ Defence Force. This should necessarily require an averaging of:*
 - The average wage per hour typically committed to OIA responses, multiplied by*
 - The average number of hours committed to responding to an OIA request*
This can be expressed as: $\sum(\text{average wage}_{\text{agency}} \times \text{average number of hours}_{\text{agency}}) / \text{number of agencies}$
- For the period 1 January 2017 – 1 January 2019, the number of OIA requests sent to all central government agencies including NZ Police and NZ Defence Force from or on behalf of the New Zealand Tax Payers Union.*
- Please also provide a narrative explaining the method used to determine the average wage and average number of hours across agencies as requested in 1a and 1b of this OIA request.*

You have indicated in your email of 26 February 2019 that the purpose of this OIA is to get an approximate idea of the cost to the tax payer incurred by OIA requests from New Zealand Tax Payer's Union.

In relation to your request under paragraph one, ERO's main function is to review the performance of schools and early childhood services. Please refer to [ERO's website - How ERO reviews](#).

ERO receives many OIA requests from schools and early childhood services (ECS), and members of the public for school and ECS reports. All official information requests are processed by ERO's Ministerial and Legal services unit, with assistance from staff working in the National Office or the regional offices in Auckland, Hamilton, Wanganui, Napier, Christchurch and Dunedin. All staff who process and/or assist usually do so in collating the information, data, including photocopying them. These ERO staff also have other full time duties. Given the number of ERO staff involved in processing and assisting with OIA requests, the information you are seeking in this case is not held by ERO, and it will not be possible to create this information. I am therefore refusing your request

under section 18(g) of the Official Information Act as ERO does not hold the information requested.

In relation to your request under paragraph two, ERO received a total number of 5 OIA requests from the New Zealand Tax Payers Union for the period 1 January 2017 – 1 January 2019.

In relation to paragraph three of your request, the same comments as for paragraph one apply.

You have a right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of my decision in relation to paragraphs one and three of your OIA request.

Yours sincerely

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.


Acting Deputy Chief Executive Corporate Services
Education Review Office | Te Tari Arotake Mātauranga
National Office | Tari Matua
