



2 May 2023



Ref: OIA-2022/23-0849

Dear 

Official Information Act request relating to staff suspensions at the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC)

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 24 April 2023. You requested:

This is a request for official information under the Official Information Act 1982 relating to staff suspensions within your organisation.

We request the following information:

- How many members of staff working for your organisation were suspended in the 2022/23 financial year?*
- How many members of staff are currently suspended for any reason?*
- How many members of staff are currently suspended and are still receiving their salary?*
- For those suspended and still receiving their salaries, please indicate the reason for their suspension and the duration of their suspension so far.*

We do not wish to cause unnecessary expense or burden on your agency. If clarification of any of our requests is needed please call or email. Likewise, if a request proves unnecessarily burdensome in form and we are likely to be able to adjust it to be more specific or better suited to your information systems without losing the benefit of what is sought, please also get in touch. If there is likely to be a delay in being able to assemble or provide some of the information requested, please provide the rest of the information as it becomes available.

To avoid unnecessary printing and postage costs, we ask that you send a confirmation of receipt, the response and any other correspondence related to this request to oliver@taxpayers.org.nz. Please include the following reference in the subject line: SuspensionsOIA.”

This response covers staff at DPMC and the National Emergency Management Agency ('NEMA' - a departmental agency hosted by DPMC).

I can advise that one person was suspended during the 2022/23 financial year. However, I am unable to indicate the reason for their suspension or the duration of their suspension, as doing so would breach privacy. Accordingly, that part of your request is under section 9(2)(a) of the Act: to protect the privacy of natural persons.

I can advise that no DPMC/NEMA staff are currently suspended. Accordingly, there are no staff suspended and receiving pay and no further details relevant to your request.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

This response will be published on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's website during our regular publication cycle. Typically, information is released monthly, or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

Yours sincerely



Chris Gianos
Head of Operations and Risk