



OIA19-0612

27 SEP 2019

Ms Brown  
fyi-request-11237-5ecf8bf0@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Ms Brown

**OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST**

I refer to your official information request on 16 September 2019 relating to information on the salary of private secretaries seconded from the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI).

You specifically requested:

*The current salary ranges for private secretaries seconded from MPI.*

There are currently seven members of staff who are seconded to Ministerial offices as Private Secretaries from MPI. Private Secretaries can come from a variety of roles from within MPI, so sit in a variety of what we refer to as “general salary” ranges.

Private Secretaries are paid their original MPI salary plus a Higher Duties Allowance that reflects the additional responsibilities and pressures that apply to the role.

Given the small number of individuals seconded from MPI in these roles, please note that we are unable to provide any further detail on specific salaries without compromising the privacy of the staff members concerned. Therefore your request is refused under section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act 1982 – that the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons.

MPI is satisfied that in the circumstances of this case, the withholding of the information is not outweighed by other considerations which render it desirable in the public interest to make the information available.

You have the right under section 28(3) of the OIA to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this response.

Yours sincerely

Meredith Edwards  
**Director Human Resources**

**Corporate Services  
Human Resources**

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