



11 DEC 2015

Gavin Millar
Email: fyi-request-3260-8cab5605@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Gavin Millar

Follow-Up Official Information Act Request for Information on the 2010 Survey on Environment Canterbury

I refer to your Official Information Act request received on 19 October 2015 for:

- "1) The total cost of undertaking this survey [2010 survey of Canterbury residents seeking views on Environment Canterbury]*
- 2) The results including all briefings that were made to Cabinet in regards to those results."*

On 13 November 2015 the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet wrote to you after consulting with the Office of the Prime Minister regarding the survey you referred to. In our response to you we noted this survey was funded out of the National Leader's Office budget, and the survey and any results or briefings is not information held in the Prime Minister's capacity as a Minister of the Crown, as it is held in the capacity of Leader of the National party, and not regarded as "official information".

On 16 November 2015 you further wrote to DPMC stating: *"I would remind you that information is deemed to be held even if it is merely known by officers of the organisation. It does not seem very believable that the information I've requested is not known by anyone within your organisation given it was discussed within Cabinet and I am led to believe documentation was tabled. I will be making a complaint to the Ombudsman about your refusal but I would ask that you reconsider your position prior to this."*

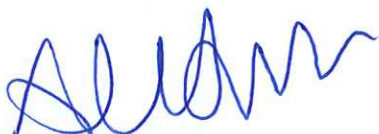
DPMC does not hold any information about the survey, we have not been privy to any of the results or briefings, or have produced any briefings on the matter. Searches were undertaken of Cabinet documents of the time and no records were identified of documents tabled at Cabinet or any other Cabinet records relevant to your request. Therefore, DPMC does not hold any information that is relevant to your request.

DPMC has no grounds to believe that any official information is held by the Prime Minister as a Minister of Crown, as any such records would relate to the role as the Leader of the Parliamentary National Party. As no official information was held, DPMC was unable to transfer your request to the Office of the Prime Minister under the Official Information Act. Accordingly, DPMC stands by the original decision to decline your request under section 18(g) of the Official Information Act - *"that the information requested is not held by the department or Minister of the Crown or organisation and the person dealing with the request has no grounds for believing that the information is either –*

- (i) *Held by another Department or Minister of the Crown or organisation, or a local authority; or*
- (ii) *Connected more closely with the functions of another Department or Minister of the Crown or organisation or of a local authority."*

I remind you that you are entitled to ask the Ombudsman to review this response under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act.

Yours sincerely



Anne Shaw
Director – Office of the Chief Executive