



26 MAY 2016

Kilian O’Gorman
Email: fyi-request-3938-f05d1d0e@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Kilian O’Gorman

Official Information Act Request Relating to Citizenship Requirements for Senior Positions in DPMC or Direct Reports

I refer to your Official Information Act request received by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) on 28 April 2016. I will respond to your questions below.

- 1) *“Within the DPMC, are there any current positions of employment (or contracted service) which required, as an absolute necessity or as a preference - that the applicant held NZ citizenship, or citizenship of either the UK, Canada, Australia or the US, as a prerequisite to processing their application for employment, or engaging in contract with and if so, what are those positions/roles and what are/were those requirements or preferences?”*

The absence of New Zealand citizenship will not impact the processing of an application for employment, unless the position requires a National Security Clearance at an appropriate level. New Zealand citizenship as an absolute necessity is dictated by the requirements to achieve a National Security Clearance – these requirements are not set by DPMC.

DPMC does regularly review which roles require citizenship in order to achieve a National Security Clearance. Our requirements for these roles can depend on a range of factors which may influence how many roles are subject the citizenship requirement.

Positions requiring New Zealand citizenship include, but are not limited to, our Security and Intelligence Group, DPMC’s Executive Leadership, and those who work directly with Executive Leadership. However, we are withholding the details of positions under section 6(a) of the Official Information Act 1982 as the making available of that information would be likely *“to prejudice the security or defence of New Zealand or the international relations of the Government of New Zealand.”*

- 2) *“Among senior positions (in state entities) with a statutory or other obligation to report to the DPMC, does the DPMC have any expectations around the citizenship status of the personnel holding those positions, and if so, what are those expectations, and of which positions?”*

DPMC does not set expectations on other agencies, organisations or entities regarding citizenship status of their staff.

You are entitled to ask the Ombudsman to review this response under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act. You can contact the Ombudsman online via the Ombudsman website, by email (info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by post to The Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143. Further details can be found on the Ombudsman website at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Anne Shaw', with a small dot at the end.

Anne Shaw
Director, Office of the Chief Executive