



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Reference: 19-E-0833-DOC-6144373

6 December 2019

T Benseman

BY EMAIL - fyi-request-11737-3de34091@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear T Benseman

Thank you for your Official Information Act request to the Department of Conservation dated Monday, 25 November 2019. You requested the following:

Please list the disciplinary actions handed out to New Zealand's Department of Conservation staff who were viewing pornography, amongst them apparently 51,000 restricted websites.

The Department provides the following response to your request.

The Department would like to make it clear that staff were not viewing pornography as your question suggests.

When using technology, there are firewalls in place to protect the Department against activity in accessing, distributing or acquisition of material or content which is deemed inappropriate in accordance with the Department's Use of Technology Standard Operating Procedure and Standards of Integrity and Conduct. This includes sites which are used legitimately for work purposes that may contain malicious adware or pop-ups which our system filters and blocks.

A total of 19 website classifications are blocked. These include categories ranging from adult content through to dating and webchat, and trading websites such as TradeMe. The blocked access attempts were for sites that have been blocked by our firewall, using one of these 19 categories. These sites have not been accessed by staff and there has been no disciplinary action taken against employees at the Department.

If you wish to discuss this with the Department, please contact Bronwyn McDonald, Employment Relations Manager by email bmcdonald@doc.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Suzanne Edwards'.

Suzanne Edwards
Director, Human Resources
For Director-General

Department of Conservation - *Te Papa Atawhai*
Conservation House - *Whare Kaupapa Atawhai*
18 Manners Street, Wellington, New Zealand
PO Box 10 420, Wellington 6143
Telephone (04) 471 0726, Fax (04) 471 3075