



28/03/2024

Rep Albert

fyi-request-25943-f8c1ff9c@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Rep Albert

OIA: 1323998 – Employees working remotely from overseas

Thank you for your email of 1 March 2024 to the Ministry of Education (the Ministry) requesting the following information:

With the Government directive to reduce the public sector spending, I am doing some research for a news piece of employees working remotely from overseas.

- 1. How many employees (permanent or fixed-term) are working remotely from overseas? (Focusing on Fiji and Australia)*
- 2. Which division or directorate those employees are assigned to? (Please list the division/directorate and the number of employees working from overseas)*
- 3. What is the business justification to have those employees working remotely from overseas?*
- 4. Which position within the Ministry approved the overseas remote work?*
- 5. With the public service cuts, how do we justify having employees working overseas while people in New Zealand will lose their jobs?*

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

The Ministry needs to extend the timeframe for responding to your request, pursuant to section 15A(1)(a) of the Act, as the request is for a large quantity of information or necessitates a search through a large quantity of information, and meeting the original time limit would unreasonably interfere with the operations of the Ministry. You can now expect to receive a response to your request on or before 1 May 2024, which is an extension of 20 working days. Please note this due date also takes into account Anzac Day, which falls on 25 April 2024.

You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to investigate our decision to extend the timeframe for responding to this request, in accordance with section 28 of the Act. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Nāku noa, nā

Cindy McDonald

**Principal Advisor, Official and Parliamentary Information
Government, Executive and Ministerial Services**

