

23 May 2017

195 Lambton Quay
Private Bag 18-901
Wellington 5045
New Zealand

D Dahya
fyi-request-5837-772fd1fa@requests.fyi.org.nz

T +64 4 439 8000
F +64 4 472 9596

Dear D Dahya

I refer to your email of 7 May 2017 in which you request, in relation to your recent application for a role at the Ministry, the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

"...-Why applicants were able to apply through 'Govt jobs online' when such applications would not be accepted.

- Why was the only notification sent AFTER applicants had already applied through 'Govt jobs online'.

-I would like to know why these avoidable flaws in the recruitment process occurred at all as they appeared to be relatively simple mistakes?..."

The Ministry posts roles on the website www.jobs.govt.nz as a method of advertising positions because this site is aimed at people seeking employment in the State sector. In some cases these advertisements advise readers to apply through the Ministry's own website, in other cases readers are advised to apply through a recruitment agency. For the role of Adviser Digital Publishing, readers were advised to apply through www.jacksonstone.co.nz. The Ministry does not own the www.jobs.govt.nz site and so does not set the parameters for how applications are processed or when notifications are sent; for this reason all advertisements the Ministry places on this site include specific directions on how to actually apply for roles.

Once your application moved outside the process advised in the advertisement, management of your application was not straightforward. We regret this unfortunate experience and hope that this will not discourage you from applying for other suitable Ministry roles in the future.

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

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J Johnston', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Joana Johnston
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade