

22 March 2021

9(2)(a)

Parliament Buildings

Wellington 6760

Email – 9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe 9(2)(a)

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

I refer to your official information request of 25 February 2021 for:

Pursuant to section 12 of the Official Information Act 1982, I request copies of all internal communications (including staff emails) from November 2018 to today regarding the proactive release of weekly reports to the Minister, particularly but not limited to the failure to proactively release any weekly reports since the end of 2018.

Due to the substantial amount of work that would be required to research, collate and review the information you have requested, I have decided to refuse your request under section 18(f) of the Official Information Act 1982. The Ministry does not have the current resourcing available in this area to perform this work, and this would have a significant impact on the Ministry.

The Ministry has now completed publishing of the weekly reports for 2018 and to June 2019. The remaining 2019, the 2020, and the 2021 reports for January and February are due to be published starting from March 2021.

Prior to being proactively released, content in each weekly report requires consultation with the subject matter expert (to check if the work is still under active consideration), and many also require consultation with external agencies to check for active consideration, and out of courtesy to stakeholders.

In a search of our system, we have estimated there are hundreds of emails from November 2018 to 25 February 2021 relating to this process. From a sample set of emails, these are administrative emails relating to consultation on particular items within each weekly report.

To collate and review all of these emails would take considerable resourcing and additional funding, beyond the Ministry's current capability. Our priority is to focus on the collation, consultation and publishing of weekly reports following on from those already published (from July 2019) within the next two months.

Official Information Act responses

Please note that this response, with your personal details redacted, may be published on the Ministry's website. If you have any concerns or comments related to this, please let us know by emailing ministerialservicing@women.govt.nz, within two weeks of the date of this letter.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



Renee Graham
Secretary for Women