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30 January 2020



Tēnā koe 

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

I refer to your official information request of **Friday 10 January 2020** for:

Can you please provide the below information, ideally in table format, for each of the past five years 2015-2019:

- *the number of sexual harassment allegations received [sic]*
- *the number of sexual harassment allegations which were laid as formal complaints*
- *the number of internal investigations into sexual harassment allegations*
- *the number of external investigations into sexual harassment allegations (in some cases, a single allegation will have both internal and external investigation - it might be helpful to note somewhere if this was the case to avoid double counting)*
- *the number of sexual harassment allegations which were upheld / substantiated / proved / found likely to be true*
- *the number of mediated settlements resulting from sexual harassment allegations*
- *the number of other types of settlements or resolutions resulting from sexual harassment allegations*
- *the amount of financial compensation included in those settlements*
- *whether those settlements included a confidentiality agreement or non disclosure agreement (note: the standard MBIE mediation under section 149 of the Employment Relations Act includes a confidentiality clause, please state if the settlement was the MBIE settlement)*

On 20 December 2018, we responded to your official information request of 23 November 2018 that included a question asking for the number of sexual harassment incidents in the last five years. The Ministry's response then was – ... *for the last five years, the Ministry for Women has no information in scope of your request.*

In response to your current request, for the period from 23 November 2018 to 10 January 2020, the Ministry for Women also has no information in scope of your request. The answer to the first of your questions, *the number of sexual harassment allegations received*, is zero. For subsequent questions, the Ministry's response is also zero/nil.

The Ministry for Women treats the safety and wellbeing of staff as a high priority. The Ministry has a no tolerance approach towards any form of harassment, and would treat any complaint very seriously.

The Ministry's work also feeds into the work of the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment and the Joint Venture on Eliminating Family Violence and Sexual Violence, to increase women's safety in New Zealand.

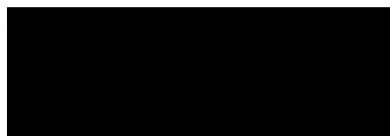
Official Information Act responses

As we advised earlier regarding your November 2018 official information request, this response too, with your personal details redacted, may be published on the Ministry's website. If you have any concerns or comments, please email ministerialservicing@women.govt.nz, within two weeks of the date of this letter.

Ministry official information responses that are published can be found [here](#)¹. Published responses cover a range of topics, including Ministry staffing. You may find it useful to refer to responses that have been published.

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
Chief Executive

¹ <https://women.govt.nz/reports-briefings/published-official-information-act-requests>