



5 May 2022

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Ref: OIA-2021/22-1226

Dear [REDACTED]

Official Information Act request regarding executive/senior leadership away days

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 8 April 2022. You requested:

*“Since March 2020, how many “away days” or retreats have the executive/senior leaders in your organisation been on?
Please get in touch if your organisation leaders refer to a similar thing - a trip which involves team bonding or otherwise is about leaders having hui together out of a traditional meeting format - but by another word.
Can each away day/retreat be broken down by:
- Dates and locations (including town and name of accommodation)
- Which leaders attended
- Budget for the retreat (broken down by travel, accommodation, food and drink, entertainment, and any other category you feel is relevant)
- What was the purpose of the retreat?
- Did any leaders produce a positive Covid-19 test within a fortnight of returning from the retreat?”*

The terms Executive or Senior leadership within your request have been interpreted as our Executive Leadership Team (ELT). More information regarding the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) ELT team is located on the Department’s website: <https://dpmc.govt.nz/about-dpmc/who-we-are>

Since March 2020 DPMC’s ELT has not held any away days, retreats or other such events, given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. I am therefore refusing your request under section 18(e) of the Act, as the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

This response may be published on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's website during our regular publication cycle. Typically, information is released monthly, or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

Yours sincerely



Clare Ward
Executive Director
Strategy, Governance and Engagement