



21 September 2022

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Ref: OIA-2022/23-0088

Dear [REDACTED]

Official Information Act request about the estimated cost and future of an additional departmental holiday

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request received on 27 August 2022.

You have requested:

- *What is the estimated cost of providing this additional departmental holiday?*
- *Will this additional departmental holiday be only for 2022 or will it continue next year and/or for the foreseeable future?*

This response includes the cost for staff in both the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) and the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), which is a departmental agency hosted by DPMC.

The estimated cost of providing this additional departmental holiday is \$181,000 across DPMC and NEMA. However, please note this is a high estimate, as both DPMC and NEMA often have a reduction in fixed term staff over the holiday period, though we are unable to determine the impact of that at this point.

As advised in our earlier response to you, the Executive Leadership Team decided to add an additional Departmental Day in 2022 in recognition of the further demands on staff during the past two very challenging years as DPMC responded to COVID-19.

There are no plans to continue with an additional departmental holiday for the foreseeable future.

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

[REDACTED]

Catherine Delore
Acting Executive Director, Strategy, Governance and Engagement