

19-D-00402

s 9(2)(a)

Reporter, Radio New Zealand

s 9(2)(a)@rnz.co.nz

Dear s 9(2)(a)

**Official information request for information on compensation paid over the last 5 financial years**

Thank you for your email on 6 March 2019 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- The total amount paid out in compensation, broken down by month, for the last five financial years.
- The reasons for the payments.

We understand the scope of your request to be as follows:

*any money paid out to someone who has raised a grievance and/or has suffered hardship, could be internal ie. an employee who was wrongly dismissed or it could be a breach of someone's privacy (like a member of the public) and compensation has been paid out for the harm done.*

*I don't mean a person's general wages or salary.*

Due to the small number of cases within scope of your request where compensation was paid, the Ministry is providing you with a summary of the information you have requested, pursuant to Section 16(1) of the Act. This is to protect the privacy of those involved.

During the last five financial years there have been five compensation payments to individuals.

As part of this summary, we have placed the total amount of compensation paid in each financial year into a banded range so specific payments to individuals cannot be identified.

The Ministry is providing you the below summary table for payments in the last five financial years:

Year	Banded Amount (Total)
2014/15	\$0
2015/16	\$65,000 - \$75,000
2016/17	\$115,000 - \$125,000
2017/18	\$0
2018/19	\$0

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman of my decision on this request, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on their website at: [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

Please note that due to the public interest in our work the Ministry for the Environment will publish responses to most of our requests for official information on our web site shortly after the response has been sent to you.

If you have any queries about this, please feel free to contact our Executive Relations team.

Yours sincerely



**Neil Hurley**  
Director, People and Culture

Released under the provision of  
the Official Information Act 1982