



15 May 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

Official Information Request
Our Ref: 2018/0064

I refer to your official information request received on 24 April 2018 where you asked:

For the number of public servants who are currently suspended from their position on full or nearly full pay and benefits (on "gardening leave");

- *a summary giving the number of public servants, under the ambit of the SSC, who are in the position outlined above*
- *their names (where possible),*
- *their positions and departments (where possible),*
- *the amount of time they have been on leave,*
- *the reason they have been suspended and;*
- *when the matter is expected to be resolved.*

On receipt of your request we contacted you to advise that the State Services Commission does not hold this information for all Public Service departments and that you would need to request this information from individual departments.

"Gardening Leave" is not referred to in employment legislation but is a term sometimes used to describe a period when an employee retains their employment, receives full pay but does not report to work. Guidelines that provide examples of when garden leave would be applicable is available on the Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment website at the following link: <https://www.employment.govt.nz/leave-and-holidays/other-types-of-leave/garden-leave/>

In response to your request, the State Services Commission does not have any employees currently suspended from their position on full or nearly full pay and benefits.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Ministerial.Services@ssc.govt.nz.

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.

Please note that we intend to publish this letter (with your personal details removed) on the State Services Commission's website.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Rachel Bruce', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rachel Bruce
Deputy Commissioner
State Services Commission