

2 August 2012

National Office

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Irene King
Aviation Industry Association of
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PO Box 2096
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Dear Irene King

Thank you for your letter of 14 June 2011, requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982, for "recommendations made by the Ministry of Education to the Minister for Tertiary Education in respect of the funding of pilot training for the years 2013 and beyond:

- All documents relating to the consultation with the 14 industry parties and the 14 respective parties responses;
- Any communications with the TEC or any other government agency on the matter of funding
- The reasons for the decision or recommendation to the Minister."

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982. I have identified 6 documents which fall into the scope of your request.

I have released 1 document titled "Submissions Received in response to consultation letter on proposed fees borrowing limit for pilot training" in its entirety. This document has been enclosed. Please note that page 13 of this document has been withheld under:

- Section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act 1982 to protect the privacy of natural persons.

I am refusing your request for 4 Budget 2012 related reports, including their titles, under section 18(d) as the Ministry of Education plans to make these documents publicly available as part of the Ministry's proactive release of tertiary education Budget 2012 documents by the end of August 2012.

The remaining document is withheld under:

- Section 9(2)(f)(iv) - to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Minister of the Crown and officials.

You have also requested "any communications with the TEC or any other government agency on the matter of funding". This request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 and has been refused under section 18(f) of the Act on the grounds that the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation and research.

There is a large volume of communications between the Ministry of Education and other government agencies which would fall within the scope of this request, and while funding for pilot training is part of this communication, there are also a range of other ongoing practical matters, material which is indirectly related and other unrelated material which forms a substantive part of the bulk of this correspondence.

Before refusing your request I considered whether fixing a charge under section 15 or extending the time limit under section 15A would enable the request to be granted, but decided it would not. However if you could consider narrowing down the scope of your request I would be happy to discuss with you ways that you may be able to do this. And of course I am happy to consider any subsequent refined request you may choose to make.

Under sections 19 and 28(3) of the Official Information Act 1982, you have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Schöllmann', with a large, stylized initial 'A' on the left and a long, sweeping underline on the right.

Dr. Andrea Schöllmann
Group Manager, Tertiary Education
Ministry of Education