



30 March 2021

Ref: DOIA 2021-1686

Shanna Reeder

[fyi-request-14810-f1ee8ace@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-14810-f1ee8ace@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Shanna Reeder

Thank you for your email of 2 March 2021 to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), information on:

*:I wish to know the number of workers, directly employed by the Hotels currently operating under contracts to provide MIQF services, who are currently earning below the Living Wage.*

*2:I wish to know the number of other workers, not employed by Hotels, but working in MIQF's who are currently earning below the Living Wage.*

As the Ministry does not employ hotel workers directly, it does not hold information on how many of them are above or below the living wage. Therefore, this part of your request to the Ministry is refused under section 18(g)(i) of the Act:

*the information requested is not held by the department or venture or Minister of the Crown or organisation and the person dealing with the request has no grounds for believing that the information is held by another department.*

However as further context, the Ministry is working with Managed Isolation and Quarantine (MIQ) hotel suppliers to achieve a commitment to paying the Living Wage as part of future contracts. An implementation date will be mutually agreed with MIQ hotels during consultation.

Currently, of the 32 MIQ hotels, 27 of these hotels have agreed in principle to their staff receiving the living wage whilst the hotels are on contract with the Crown. The Ministry is still working with the remaining hotels on this.

On 16 and 17 March 2021, the Ministry partially transferred the second part of your request to the Ministry of Health, New Zealand Police, New Zealand Defence Force and the Aviation Security Service. These government departments/agencies will respond to you in due course.

The Ministry itself has no staff earning below the living wage in MIQ facilities.

I trust you find the information helpful. 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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

**Andrew Milne**  
Associate Deputy Chief Executive  
Managed Isolation and Quarantine