



OIA 0371

25 September 2014

Dan Hawke

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Dear Mr Hawke

Thank you for your further email dated 7 September 2014 commenting on my reply to you of 1 September 2014 regarding your request on 7 August 2014 for information about mediations involving Canterbury University.

You have asked me why section 148 of the Employment Relations Act 2000 (the Act) applies to your request and I advise as follows.

Section 148 (6)(b ) states that:

*Nothing in this section –  
prevents the gathering of information by the department for research or educational purposes  
so long as the parties and the specific matters in issue between them are not identifiable;*

The Ministry interprets this as meaning that it cannot divulge information about mediations where the parties or a party are identifiable. As a party is intended to be identified (ie Canterbury University), and despite permission from the University having been granted for the release of the requested material, the Ministry believes it is constrained by the Act from providing the information you seek. However, you may wish to consider approaching the University directly with a view to it providing the information you seek.

Yours sincerely

Adrienne Meikle  
General Manager,  
Resolution Services

