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8 February 2024

Michael Gunson By email: <u>fyi-request-25321-77102899@requests.fyi.org.nz</u>

Tēnā koe Michael

Request under the Official Information Act 1982 – Chief of Staff paid leave

Thank you for your email of 1 January 2024, requesting the following information from Te Pūkenga – New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology (Te Pūkenga):

... the number of days of paid leave taken by Ziena Jalil, chief of staff Te Pūkenga over the last 12 months.

This letter provides a formal decision on your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

The decision

We are withholding details of paid leave taken by our Chief of Staff, Ziena Jalil, since her commencement in the role under section 9(2)(a) of the OIA to *protect the privacy of natural persons*. We have considered the public interest in release of this information and do not believe it outweighs the need to protect the privacy of our Chief of Staff.

Te Pūkenga staff are entitled to paid leave. When and how much leave they take is agreed between them and their manager and is personal and private to them. We do not consider that it is in the public interest for such information to be released.

We note that this is the third request you have sent to Te Pūkenga since June 2023 for information relating to Ziena Jalil's leave entitlements (following her appointment in March 2023 to the role of Chief of Staff), and that you have also made other requests relating to her.

If you have any matters you want to raise directly with us, we will be happy to attempt to address them. Otherwise, if we continue to receive requests from you seeking this same information, we may need to consider refusal of such requests on the grounds that they are frivolous or vexatious and/or that withholding information is necessary to protect against potential improper pressure or harassment.

You have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the OIA if you are not happy with this response. Information about how to do this is available at <u>www.ombudsman.parliament.nz</u> or by calling 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi

Gus Gilmore Tumuaki Taupua | Acting Chief Executive