Office of Hon Nicola Willis

Minister of Finance
Minister for the Public Service
Minister for Social Investment
Associate Minister of Climate Change



4 November 2024

Jacob

fvi-request-28494-792a1536@requests.fvi.org.nz

Dear Jacob

Official Information Request Reference MOIA 2024-0263

I refer to your official information request dated 23 September 2024 for:

- Please provide a list of all dates you have worked in your capacity as Minister of Finance primarily from your residential address (referred to as "working from home").
- For each of those dates, please provide the reason why you worked from home on that date.
- If you are unable to provide the reason why you worked from home on that date, please provide your explanation for your indefensible drop in productivity on those days.
- Please provide the 'work from home' policy for staff in your office. If you do not have one, please explain why you allow your staff to cripple the Wellington economy.

Information not held

I do carry out some interviews and paperwork from home outside of normal office hours but I do not keep records of these occasions.

I am therefore refusing parts one, two and three of your request under section 18(e) of the Official Information Act 1982 on the grounds the information requested does not exist.

Information being released

The Department of Internal Affairs is responsible for the work from home policy in all ministerial offices, as the employer of staff who provide administrative support to Ministers of the Crown. The agreed interim measures are that working from home (or other ad-hoc requests for flexibility) is by agreement with the respective manager, which is most cases is the Senior Private Secretary (SPS). In the case of SPSs, this is by agreement with the relevant Department of Internal Affairs Portfolio Manager.

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.

Yours sincerely

Hon Nicola Willis

Minister for the Public Service