



19 March 2026

Ministerial Services  
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Dear Francis Cole

### **Request for information OIA 2526-0871**

Thank you for your request for information made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) received on 19 February 2026. You requested the following information:

- 1. A list of ministerial staff positions/titles in each separate ministerial office currently employed as of February 2026 and the number of people in each role*

### **Response to your request**

Please find the information you have requested in the attached table as **Appendix 1**.

The information in Appendix A represents ministerial staff employed by DIA as at 28 February 2026. The information is broken down by ministerial office, position title, and the number of Full Time Equivalent (FTE) staff in each position. This response is consistent with your previous requests in 2022, 2021 and 2018.

The number of staff employed in a Minister's office may fluctuate depending on the nature of the portfolios held by a Minister at a particular time.

Please note **Appendix 1** does not include:

- Roving staff employed by DIA that provide backfill cover to meet fluctuating needs in Ministers' offices. They have not been included because they are not assigned to a particular Minister's office,
- Staff who are on parental leave, and

- Staff on secondment from various government agencies as they remain employed by their home agency.

We may publish this OIA response on [www.dia.govt.nz](http://www.dia.govt.nz) (with your personal details having been removed). Publishing responses to OIA requests increases the availability of information to the public and is consistent with the purpose of the Act to enable effective participation in the making and administration of laws and policies, and to promote the accountability of Ministers and officials.

If you have any concerns with the information in this response, you have a right to request an investigation and review by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act. Information on how to do this is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



**Briget Ridden**

General Manager, Ministerial Services  
Partnerships and Commissions - Te Aukaha  
Department of Internal Affairs - Te Tari Taiwhenua

**Appendix 1: Ministerial employees employed by DIA as at 28 February 2026:**

<b>Minister's office</b>	<b>Full time equivalent (FTE)</b>
<b>Rt Hon Christopher Luxon</b>	<b>19</b>
Chief of Staff	1
Deputy Chief of Staff	1
Senior Private Secretary	1
Director Policy and Advice	1
Specialist Ministerial Advisor	3
Chief Press Secretary	1
Deputy Chief Press Secretary	1
Strategic Comms Manager	1
Senior Press Secretary	1
Press Secretary (Level 2)	1
Executive Assistant to the Chief of Staff	1
Senior Communications and Digital Advisor	1
Private Secretary (Executive Support)	1
Lead Advisor (Correspondence Unit)	1
Executive Assistant (Correspondence Unit)	2
Executive Assistant - Prime Minister's Office	1
<b>Hon Nicola Willis</b>	<b>7</b>
Senior Private Secretary	1
Specialist Ministerial Advisor	1
Ministerial Advisor (Level 2)	1
Senior Press Secretary	1
Press Secretary (Level 2)	1
Private Secretary (Executive Support)	1
Private Secretary (Administration)	1
<b>Hon Chris Bishop</b>	<b>7</b>
Senior Private Secretary	1
Senior Ministerial Advisor	2
Ministerial Advisor (House)	1
Senior Press Secretary	1
Private Secretary (Media)	1
Private Secretary (Executive Support)	1
<b>Hon Simeon Brown</b>	<b>7</b>
Senior Private Secretary	1
Senior Ministerial Advisor	1
Ministerial Advisor (Level 2)	1
Ministerial Advisor (Level 1)	1
Senior Press Secretary	1
Private Secretary (Executive Support)	1
Private Secretary (Administration)	1

<b>Hon Erica Stanford</b>	<b>6</b>
Senior Private Secretary	1
Senior Press Secretary	1
Senior Ministerial Advisor	1
Specialist Ministerial Advisor	1
Private Secretary (Advisory/Media)	1
Private Secretary (Executive Support)	1
<b>Hon Paul Goldsmith</b>	<b>5</b>
Senior Private Secretary	1
Senior Ministerial Advisor	1
Ministerial Advisor (Level 1)	1
Press Secretary (Level 2)	1
Private Secretary (Admin)	1
<b>Hon Louise Upston</b>	<b>6</b>
Senior Private Secretary	1
Senior Press Secretary	1
Press Secretary (Level 2)	1
Ministerial Advisor (Level 2)	1
Ministerial Advisor (Level 1)	1
Private Secretary (Executive Support)	1
<b>Hon Judith Collins KC</b>	<b>5</b>
Senior Private Secretary	1
Senior Ministerial Advisor	1
Ministerial Advisor (Level 2)	1
Private Secretary (Advisory/Media)	1
Private Secretary (Administration)	1
<b>Hon Dr Shane Reti</b>	<b>4</b>
Senior Private Secretary	1
Senior Ministerial Advisor	1
Press Secretary (Level 2)	1
Private Secretary (Administration)	1
<b>Hon Mark Mitchell</b>	<b>5</b>
Senior Private Secretary	1
Ministerial Advisor (Level 2)	1
Senior Press Secretary	1
Private Secretary (Advisory/Media)	1
Private Secretary (Executive Support)	1
<b>Hon Todd McClay</b>	<b>5</b>
Senior Private Secretary	1

Ministerial Advisor (Level 1)	1
Press Secretary (Level 1)	1
Private Secretary (Executive Support)	1
<b>Hon Tama Potaka</b>	<b>4</b>
Senior Private Secretary	1
Ministerial Advisor (Level 2)	1
Press Secretary (Level 2)	1
Private Secretary (Administration)	1
<b>Hon Matt Doocey</b>	<b>4</b>
Senior Private Secretary	1
Ministerial Advisor (Level 2)	1
Press Secretary (Level 2)	1
Private Secretary (Executive Support)	1
<b>Hon Simon Watts</b>	<b>5</b>
Senior Private Secretary	1
Ministerial Advisor (Level 2)	2
Press Secretary (Level 2)	1
Private Secretary (Administration)	1
<b>Hon Chris Penk</b>	<b>4</b>
Senior Private Secretary	1
Ministerial Advisor (Level 2)	1
Press Secretary (Level 1)	1
Private Secretary (Executive Support)	1
<b>Hon Penny Simmonds</b>	<b>4</b>
Senior Private Secretary	1
Ministerial Advisor (Level 2)	1
Press Secretary (Level 1)	1
Private Secretary (Administration)	1
<b>Hon Nicola Grigg</b>	<b>4</b>
Senior Private Secretary	1
Ministerial Advisor (Level 2)	1
Press Secretary (Level 1)	1
Private Secretary (Administration)	1
<b>Hon Scott Simpson</b>	<b>4</b>
Senior Private Secretary	1
Ministerial Advisor (Level 1)	1
Press Secretary (Level 1)	1
Private Secretary (Administration)	1

<b>Hon James Meager</b>	<b>4</b>
Senior Private Secretary	1
Ministerial Advisor (Level 2)	1
Press Secretary (Level 1)	1
Private Secretary (Executive Support)	1
<b>Hon David Seymour</b>	<b>9</b>
Chief of Staff	1
Director of Communications	1
Senior Private Secretary	1
Senior Ministerial Advisor	2
Press Secretary	1
Digital Manager (Act Caucus)	1
Private Secretary (Executive Support)	1
Private Secretary (Administration)	1
<b>Hon Brooke Van Velden</b>	<b>5</b>
Senior Private Secretary	1
Senior Ministerial Advisor	1
Ministerial Advisor (Level 1)	1
Senior Press Secretary	1
Private Secretary (Advisory/Media)	1
<b>Hon Nicole McKee</b>	<b>4</b>
Senior Private Secretary	1
Ministerial Advisor (Level 2)	1
Press Secretary (Level 1)	1
Private Secretary (Executive Support)	1
<b>Hon Andrew Hoggard</b>	<b>4</b>
Senior Private Secretary	1
Senior Ministerial Advisor	1
Press Secretary (Level 2)	1
Private Secretary (Executive Support)	1
<b>Hon Karen Chhour</b>	<b>4</b>
Senior Private Secretary	1
Senior Ministerial Advisor	1
Press Secretary (Level 2)	1
Private Secretary (Executive Support)	1
<b>Simon Court MP</b>	<b>2</b>
Senior Private Secretary	1
Private Secretary (Advisory/Media)	1
<b>Rt Hon Winston Peters</b>	<b>10</b>

Chief of Staff	1
Deputy Chief of Staff	1
Director of Communications	1
Senior Private Secretary	1
Specialist Ministerial Advisor	1
Senior Press Secretary	1
Ministerial Advisor	1
Senior Ministerial Advisor	1
Private Secretary (Advisory/Media)	1
Private Secretary (Executive Support)	1
<b>Hon Shane Jones</b>	<b>5</b>
Senior Private Secretary	1
Specialist Ministerial Advisor	1
Senior Press Secretary	1
Private Secretary (Advisory/Media)	1
Private Secretary (Executive Support)	1
<b>Hon Casey Costello</b>	<b>5</b>
Senior Private Secretary	1
Ministerial Advisor (Level 2)	1
Senior Press Secretary	1
Private Secretary (Advisory/Media)	1
Private Secretary (Executive Support)	1
<b>Hon Mark Patterson</b>	<b>2.5</b>
Senior Private Secretary	1
Ministerial Advisor (Level 2)	1
Private Secretary (Administration)	0.5
<b>Jenny Marcroft MP</b>	<b>2</b>
Senior Private Secretary	1
Ministerial Advisor (Level 1)	1
	<b>Total FTE: 161.5</b>