



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga

19 December 2012

National Office

Education Workforce
45-47 Pipitea Street
Thorndon
PO Box 1666
Wellington
New Zealand

Phone: 0-4-463 8000
Fax: 0-4-463 8001
www.minedu.govt.nz
File: 727887

Julie Fairey
Fyi-request-409-92b69a82@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Julie

I apologise for the delay in replying to your email of 19 November 2012 requesting clarification about the response you received from the Ministry on 9 September to your Official Information Act request.

In your email, you have referred to an article from TVNZ on 18 November 2012, which contains a statement from the Principal of Baradene College Sandy Pasley, who was a member of the Payroll Reference Group stating “the Education Ministry rushed out the system because it was desperate to meet self-imposed deadlines”. You are concerned that the advice you received from the Ministry conflicts with this TVNZ article.

As you were advised in my letter dated 10 September 2012, the implementation (“go live”) date for Novopay has on several occasions been changed to a later date from that planned. The date has been delayed, not brought forward. I can again assure you, that what you have been advised is correct and that the Ministry did not rush the decision to implement the Novopay system.

The Ministry did consider whether to undertake a two-stage implementation. It was originally planned to implement Novopay in the South Island first and then the North Island. However this approach was abandoned because on balance there was not enough value to be gained by a staged implementation to outweigh the complexities of this implementation. The impending end-of-life of the existing payroll platform meant that the Ministry could not delay the implementation further.

I hope this clarifies any concerns you may have. Please feel free to contact me at leanne.gibson@minedu.govt.nz if you have any further queries regarding Novopay.

Yours sincerely

Leanne Gibson
Chief Information Officer