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19 October 2017

Alan Thompson

By email: fyi-request-6479-ce7b77ae@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Alan

Information Request – total area burnt in rural fires 2015 and 2016

I am writing in relation to your information request dated 4 October 2017 regarding total area burnt in rural fires 2015 and 2016.

Your request has been assessed in accordance with the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). We collect data for the financial year and to determine the statistics for the calendar year would require substantial collation or research.

We have looked at the table you make reference to in the discussion document released by the Department of Internal Affairs. It would appear from the data provided by us that the years shown along the x-axis are reference to the financial year, i.e. 2013 is data for the 2012/13 year.

We have considered fixing a charge or extending the timeframes, however given the large volume of searching required we do not view this would enable the request to be granted. We are therefore declining your request under section 18(f) of the OIA. However, we hope that the clarification on the DIA statistics means that the financial year data will satisfy your request.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Leigh Deuchars'.

Leigh Deuchars
Director, Office of the Chief Executive