



27 June 2018

Mx Jem Traylen
PolicyWorks NZ

fyi-request-7980-bae397bd@requests.fyi.org.nz

DOIA 1718-1733

Dear Mx Jem Traylen

Thank you for your email of 2 June 2018 to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

*I understand that written exercises are part of your recruitment process for policy roles.
Please provide a copy of all question papers used during 2017.*

The written exercises used as part of MBIE's recruitment process in 2017 are still currently in use. It would be unfair to all candidates to release such information publicly under the Act in case some future candidates were to come into possession of the exercises and had advance notice of the matters they might be asked to analyse in a test environment. Therefore, MBIE is refusing your request under section 9(2)(k) of the Act, to prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage.

However, MBIE is able to provide a summary of the written questions used in its recruitment process. MBIE typically uses a suite of written assessment exercises in its policy recruitment processes, although managers may tailor or develop assessments specific to their particular recruitment process.

MBIE's assessments cover policy topics candidates may be exposed to during their employment. The assessments are designed to test their analytical ability, general understanding of the policy issue presented, how they would approach the policy problem, their written communication and presentation skills, and their ability to evaluate and synthesise information.

Examples of topics candidates may be tested on include, but are not limited to:

- Unsafe buildings
- Affordable Auckland Housing
- Rental housing markets
- Wellington housing accord 6th Monitoring
- A tourism opportunity for Waihiwaiariki
- Mobile phone market
- Payday lending
- Import tariffs
- Improving the governance of NZ firms
- Director's duties

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of our response to your request. Information about how to make a complaint is available at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or Freephone: 0800 802 602.

I trust you find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Griffiths', written in a cursive style.

Richard Griffiths
General Manager
Human Resources