



4 June 2019

Ross Francis
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45 Pipitea Street
Wellington
Phone 0800 25 78 87
dia.govt.nz

Dear Mr Francis

Your Departmental official information request, reference OIA18/19-0719

I note your email of 9 May 2019 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Helen Cull QC chaired two ministerial inquiries – into the health system and the fire service - in 2000. When did each inquiry begin and end?

As you are aware, Fire and Emergency New Zealand transferred the part of your request relating to a fire service inquiry to the Department of Internal Affairs (the Department) for response.

The Department understands your request relates to a review of issues concerning the conduct of New Zealand Fire Service personnel. This followed allegations, in 2000, of fraud against the Chief Fire Officer in Hamilton, of Fire Service personnel accessing internet pornography, and the payment for personal videos at a Wellington hotel while on Fire Service business.

In August 2000 the Fire Service Commission ordered an independent review to investigate the above allegations. Helen Cull QC was appointed to lead the review in August and presented her report in late December 2000.

I hope the above information satisfies your request.

You have the right, under section 28(3) of the Act, to seek an investigation and review of this decision by the Office of the Ombudsman. The postal address of the Office of the Ombudsman is PO Box 10152, Wellington. Alternatively, you can phone 0800 802 602 or email info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Yours sincerely

Karen Hope-Cross

Karen Hope-Cross
Director Operational Services