

26 October 2018



Dear Ms Bennik

**Official Information Act Request: Our Reference SSC2018/0166**

Thank you for your email of 28 September 2018, where you ask for the following information:

*"We request the following information for, if possible, each government department/ministry. Please email or call if the scope of the request needs to be clarified or narrowed.*

- 1) The number of employees granted a bonus and/or member only benefits, for being a member of a union.*
- 2) The total value of the bonuses and/or member only benefits, granted to employees for being a member of a union.*
- 3) A copy of the most recent collective agreement allow bonuses and/or member only benefits to be granted to staff for being a member of a union".*

On 2 October 2018, we contacted you to seek clarification on the time period for this request. You confirmed that you would like the requested information for the financial year, 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018.

In response to the above three questions, no employee has been granted a member only benefit for being part of a union. During the period of 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018, there were nine collective agreements settled in the core Public Service. Three included settlement payments but these were offered to all employees undertaking work covered by the collective agreement, regardless of whether the employees were members of a union or not.

Accordingly, I have refused your request for the above information under section 18(e) of the OIA as the document alleged to contain the information requested, does not exist.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please contact [Ministerial.Services@ssc.govt.nz](mailto:Ministerial.Services@ssc.govt.nz).

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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that we intend to publish this letter (with your personal details removed) on the State Services Commission's website.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Borrell'.

Sarah Borrell  
**Manager Workforce and Employment Relations**  
**State Services Commission**