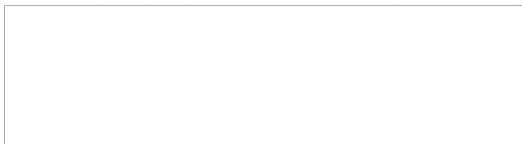




**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT**

TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

29 JUN 2016



Dear 

On 10 June 2016 you emailed the Ministry requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, information relating to the total amount spent by the Ministry on sponsored news content for each of the 2014/15 and 2015/16 financial years.

On 20 June 2016 you refined your request in the following way:

- *To clarify by sponsored content we mean to refer to news articles (in print or online) that the Ministry has paid to place. Please note this does not include traditional advertising.*

I can advise that no records have been identified relating to Ministry spending on news articles (in print or online) in either of the 2014/15 and 2015/16 financial years. As such, your request for this information is refused under section 18(e) of the Official Information Act as this information does not exist.

I am sorry I cannot be more helpful at this time. You have the right to seek an investigation and review of my response by the Ombudsman, whose address for contact purposes is:

The Ombudsman  
Office of the Ombudsman  
PO Box 10-152  
WELLINGTON 6143

Yours sincerely


Rachel Sutherland  
**General Manager**  
**Ministerial and Executive Services**