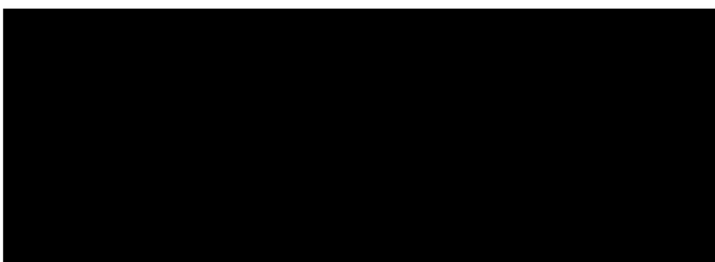




4 June 2021



Thank you for your email of 16 April 2021 to the Ministry of Education requesting the following information:

- *Any Ministerial Briefings from 1 January 2020 to date relating to the Apprenticeship Boost Initiative*
- *Any internal reports, memos or papers from 1 January 2020 to date relating to the Apprenticeship Boost Initiative to leadership teams, governance groups or similar bodies*
- *Any joint papers, updates or briefings from 1 January 2020 to date relating to the Apprenticeship Boost Initiative*
- *Any Terms of Reference, Memoranda of Understanding and Partnership Agreements between the agencies participating in 1 January 2020 to date relating to the Apprenticeship Boost Initiative*
- *Any internal communications from 1 January 2020 to date relating to the Apprenticeship Boost Initiative*

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

I understand you met with Lisa Sengelow and Eleonora Sparagna on 6 May 2021 to discuss your request and clarify the information you are interested in. Thank you again for taking the time to meet with us to gain a better understanding of how we can best assist you to obtain the information you are seeking.

**Any Ministerial Briefings from 1 January 2020 to date relating to the Apprenticeship Boost Initiative & Any joint papers, updates or briefings from 1 January 2020 to date relating to the Apprenticeship Boost Initiative.**

We have identified six documents in scope of these parts of your request. The decision on each document is outlined in the document table below.

Some information has been withheld from the documents under the following sections of the Act:

- 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of natural persons; and
- 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act, to maintain the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.

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I do not consider the public interest considerations favouring the release of the withheld information are sufficient to outweigh the need to withhold it at this time.

We are refusing the release of three of these documents under section 18(d) of the Act, as the requested information is, or soon to be, publicly available. Please see the document table attached for the details of these documents.

As advised during your meeting with Lisa Sengelow and Eleonora Sparagna on 6 May 2021, the documents that are in scope of your first bullet point also provide the information requested in your third bullet point.

However, you were advised the Ministry is currently consulting on proposed changes to the use of National Student Numbers (NSNs) to support workplace-based learning. These changes would simplify payment validation and reporting processes for any future initiatives similar to Apprenticeship Boost, where payments are made to employers.

As part of this discussion, we agreed it would be useful for us to expand this part of your request to include papers on NSNs. We have identified two papers in scope of this broadened element of your request; however as these are soon to be publicly available this part of your request has been refused under section 18(d) of the Act. Please see the document table attached for the details of papers and where they will be available once published.

You may be interested in the following information regarding NSNs:

[Proposed change to allow National Student Numbers to be used to support work-based learning \(education.govt.nz\)](https://www.education.govt.nz/news-and-media/news/2021/proposed-change-to-allow-national-student-numbers-to-be-used-to-support-work-based-learning/)

**Any internal reports, memos or papers from 1 January 2020 to date relating to the Apprenticeship Boost Initiative to leadership teams, governance groups or similar bodies.**

This part of your request was discussed in person with Lisa Sengelow and Eleonora Sparagna during your meeting on 6 May 2021.

As discussed, the Ministry has not generated any internal reports, memos or papers relating to the Apprenticeship Boost Initiative in the timeframe of your request and which have been presented to internal leadership teams, governance groups or similar bodies. It is therefore necessary for me to refuse this part of your request under section 18(e) of the Act as the information you have requested does not exist.

While not in scope of your request, we do, provide information relating to the Apprenticeship Boost Initiative to the Employment Education and Training (EET) secretariat. The EET secretariat provides reports to EET Deputy Chief Executives, Chief Executives and Ministers on relevant work and initiatives, including Apprenticeship Boost, which may be of interest to your research. At the meeting, we agreed that we would provide you with the contact details of the Secretariat so that you could direct a request to them.

You can contact the EET secretariat at [Michelle.Kynaston@education.govt.nz](mailto:Michelle.Kynaston@education.govt.nz) to find out about the EET structure, and to be connected with any publicly available information released by the Secretariat.



**Any Terms of Reference, Memoranda of Understanding and Partnership Agreements between the agencies participating in 1 January 2020 to date relating to the Apprenticeship Boost Initiative.**

We are refusing this part of your request under section 18(e) of the Act as the of documents you have requested do not exist. This was also discussed during the 6 May 2021 meeting where it was explained that Terms of Reference, Memoranda of Understanding or Partnership Agreements were not created for ABI, and that EET has provided the main governance structure for agencies' collaboration.

**Any internal communications from 1 January 2020 to date relating to the Apprenticeship Boost Initiative.**

Thank you for you advising this part of your request only refers to internal messaging at a Ministry-wide level, such as memos or intranet articles, and not communications between individual Ministry staff members.

There were two articles published on the Ministry intranet relating to the Apprenticeship Boost Initiative within the timeframe of your request. As outlined in the document table, I am releasing these to you in full, attached as documents 9 and 10.

Please note, the Ministry now proactively publishes OIA responses on our website. As such, we may publish this response on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed.

Thank you again for your email. You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision. You can do this by writing to [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Nāku noa, nā



Katrina Sutich  
**Group Manager**  
**Te Ara Kaimanawa**