

21 March 2023

Section (9)(2)(a)

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Our ref: OIA 102669

Tēnā koe Section (9)(2)(a)

### **Official Information Act request: Stand Together logo**

Thank you for your email of 7 February 2023 to the Chief District Court Judge Chambers. Your request was referred to the Ministry of Justice (the Ministry) for a response under the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). I apologise for the delay in responding to your request. Please find my responses to your questions below.

- 1. Is the MOJ aware that staff are using the "stand together" logo in their email signatures?*

The Ministry is aware staff who are Public Service Association (PSA) members are using the Stand Together logo in their email signature. Stand Together is the PSA's campaign for a cost of living pay adjustment for members in the public service.

- 2. Does MOJ allow staff to use the logo in their email signatures?*

The Ministry has a guideline for the use of email signatures for all staff, including those who support the functions of the courts and tribunals. However, the Ministry does not encourage the use of other logos, besides the Ministry's or the Government Crest (New Zealand Coat of Arms) logo, as part of the email signature, unless they are PSA members identifying themselves in the message as a delegate of the PSA for that messaging.

- 3. If not, has MOJ taken action to require staff to remove the email signatures?*

The Ministry has taken appropriate measures in consultation with the PSA to encourage staff who are PSA members to remove the logo from their external email signatures.

- 4. How many staff are using the 'stand together' logo?*

The Ministry does not collect data on the number of staff using the Stand Together logo. Therefore, this question has been refused under section 18(e) of the Act, as the information does not exist.

5. Does MOJ endorse 'stand together'?

The Ministry recognises the role of PSA in promoting their members' collective employment interests and we work closely with them. As a public service agency, the Ministry was represented in the negotiations relating to these cost of living pay adjustments by the Public Service Commission / Te Kawa Mataaho. We are implementing the outcomes of that process.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website at: [justice.govt.nz/about/official-information-act-requests/oia-responses/](https://justice.govt.nz/about/official-information-act-requests/oia-responses/).

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Office of the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act. The Office of the Ombudsman may be contacted by email to [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by phone on 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



Tina Wakefield  
**Deputy Secretary, Corporate & Digital Services**