

27 JUN 2019

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Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request of 29 May 2019 under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) for:

*“How many times has your agency/ department been hacked?
How many times has an attempt at a hack been detected at your agency/
department?
What are you doing to secure your systems to make sure you're secure?
Have you received any instructions to increase your security?”*

The Ministry of Health (the Ministry) has elected to interpret the first question of your request as “How many times have you detected unauthorised access to your network or systems that would constitute a cyber security incident”.

The first two questions of your request are refused under section 6(a) of the Act as it would be inappropriate to publicly disclose operational or technical details of this nature.

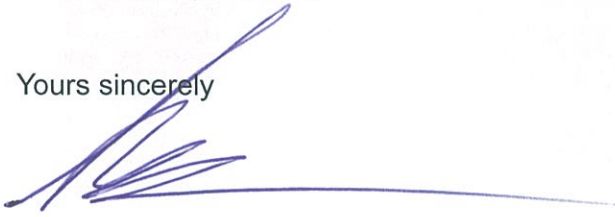
A variety of controls and protective measures are applied by the Ministry to provide for the security of its systems. Examples of these include the Ministry policies and procedures and the application of frameworks and standards, such as the New Zealand Information Security Manual. This is supported by specialist Information Technology Security staff who provide advice and guidance to the Ministry as required.

The Ministry regularly receives information security advice and advisories from the Government Communications Security Bureau; the Government Chief Digital Office and CERT New Zealand. However, the Ministry has not received any specific instructions to increase its security in relation to the recent events involving the Treasury.

You have the right, under section 28 of the Act, to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request.

Please be aware that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry's website.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sue Gordon', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Sue Gordon
Deputy Director-General
Corporate Services