



08 JUN 2018



Dear 

Thank you for writing to the Ministry of Education on 10 May 2018, to request information about sexual harassment in the workplace. Your request was for information on the following matters:

- The number of complaints received each year between 2015 and 2018
- The forums in which sexual harassment complaints or allegations have been made
- Information about staff who are the source or subject of complaints about sexual harassment, and
- The Ministry's sexual harassment policies.

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

Sexual harassment has no place at the Ministry of Education and will not be tolerated. We are committed to providing a safe workplace for all employees. In 2017 we amended our Bullying and Harassment Policy and created guidelines for raising and dealing with allegations of sexual harassment. The guidelines are published on our intranet and are available to all staff.

Sometimes those who are subject to sexual harassment may find it difficult to make a complaint. If an employee (and others) has concerns about sexual harassment, or has witnessed sexual harassment, we recommend they contact their manager, our People Capability teams or a support person to help them address the situation. Our bullying and harassment complaints resolution process can then be activated, to ensure the issue is acted on promptly and fairly.

The Ministry has received two complaints of sexual harassment since 2015. One complaint has been resolved, and an investigation into the other complaint is ongoing.

Thank you again for your request. If you have any further questions about this issue, please feel free to contact our Media Team in the first instance, by emailing [Media.Team@education.govt.nz](mailto:Media.Team@education.govt.nz).

Section 28(3) of the Act gives you the right to refer my response to an Ombudsman. You can do this by writing to [info@ombudsman.parliament.govt.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.govt.nz).

Yours sincerely



Zoe Griffiths  
**Deputy Secretary**  
**Business Enablement and Support**