



30 JAN 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

On 25 November 2019, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

- *I would like to request a list of vacancy (ministerial appointment only, e.g. board member, Lay member, Trustee etc) that the nomination period has been closed but still under consideration by the Minister or Department. In your list, can you please include the date that vacancy been advertised and when the vacancy been closed as well.*

The Ministry coordinates the ministerial appointment process for five advisory boards and committees, including;

- the New Zealand Artificial Limbs Service (NZALS)
- the Student Allowance Appeals Authority (SAAA)
- the Social Security Appeals Authority (SSAA)
- the Social Workers Complaints and Disciplinary Authority (SWCDT); and
- the Social Workers Registration Board (SWRB).

The Ministry initiated a call for nominations on Monday 7 October 2019 to identify at least six replacement candidates for four of these entities, including:

- NZALS: 1 new appointment
- SSAA: 1 new appointment
- SWCDT: 1 new appointment; and
- SWRB: 1 new registered social worker appointment and 2 'lay person' appointments.

The call for nominations concluded on Friday 25 October 2019, and the preferred candidates for appointment are currently being considered by the Minister. The preferred candidates have not been advised of the status of their application.

In 2020, a call for nominations will be initiated to identify at least four replacement candidates for two of these entities, including:

- NZALS: 2 new appointments; 1 on the nomination of the NZALS Board¹, and 1 on the nomination of the New Zealand Orthopaedic Association¹; and
- SWCDT: 2 new registered social worker appointments.

¹ Consistent with Section 10 of the Artificial Limb Service Act 2018.

The principles and purposes of the Official Information Act 1982 under which you made your request are:

- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter and any attached documents available to the wider public. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter on the Ministry of Social Development's website. Your personal details will be deleted and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with this response regarding current and future ministerial appointments to advisory boards, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Rachel Sutherland
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