

20 November 2018

Privacy, OIA s9(2)(a)



On 23 October you made a request under section 12 of the Official Information Act (the OIA) seeking:

. . . information on the applicants for the external MPC roles, (as advertised, applications having closed on 7 Sept 2018):

- *total number of applications received,*
- *the proportion of total applications received from women (as best the Board or its agents could tell),*
- *the proportion of total applications received from people currently resident in New Zealand,*
- *the proportion of total applications received from people currently employed at a university.*
- *the number of applications taken further (not just immediately set aside as clearly unsuitable/unacceptable by the Board or its agents,*
- *the proportion of those applications taken further from (a) women (as best you can tell), (b) people currently resident in New Zealand, and (c) people currently employed at a university.*

As agreed with you, the Reserve Bank is responding initially to the first four points of your request.

There were 75 candidates in total, including candidates identified through a search process, for the roles of external members of the Monetary Policy Committee being established under the [Reserve Bank of New Zealand \(Monetary Policy\) Amendment Bill](#).

Of these 75 candidates: 23 percent (17 candidates) are women, 92 percent (69 candidates) are currently resident in New Zealand, and 8 percent (6 candidates) are currently employed at a university.

Other matters

As agreed with you, the information sought in the last two bullet points of your request are being treated separately and you will receive a response to them at a later date.

The correspondence I sent on 24 October about responding separately was not as clear as it could have been. The question of whether the number of applications is “*taken further (not*

just immediately set aside as clearly unsuitable/unacceptable)” was interpreted as meaning the final stage of the selection process. The process is still underway to determine how many candidates would be considered for that stage, hence the need to respond separately to the final two parts of your request.

The Reserve Bank will publish this response to your request, at www.rbnz.govt.nz/research-and-publications/official-information-requests. You have the right to seek a review of the Reserve Bank’s decisions in relation to your request, under section 28 of the OIA.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A Barclay', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Angus Barclay
External Communications Adviser