



16 December 2024

9(2)(a) privacy

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### **Official Information Request**

**Our Ref: PSCR 2024-0090**

I refer to your official information request received on 18 November 2024 where you asked:

*“The total times adult entertainment websites have been blocked by your agency's web filter, on staff devices or any work environment. If you require a list to search this, please use your own discretion. A breakdown of these figures by month”.*

We attempted to clarify with you on 21 November 2024 what time period you were seeking the information for, however we did not receive a response from you and have therefore provided information for the period November 2023 to November 2024.

### **Our response**

For context, Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission (the Commission) runs three Wi-Fi networks. One network where only Commission agency devices can connect, one network where another agency only devices can connect and one guest network where visitors to the Commission's premises and employees can connect their personal devices. The Commission's IT security providers do not have the ability to differentiate the traffic blocked between these three networks. The information provided below covers all three networks.

A web filter block could be either directly visited websites, or from blocked ads to these prohibited sites from non-blocked websites. For example: a visit to a website not categorised as an adult entertainment (pornography) but includes an ad to one of the specific sites. It is also possible that a browser tab on a personal device was open outside of work, but not closed when connected to our guest network. These are all counted in the total number of web filter blocks. The Commission does not have the ability to differentiate the specific nature of the web filter blocks.

Therefore, please find listed in the table below the number of times the Commission's web filter has blocked access to adult entertainment website on either a work device or on a personal device connected to one of the Commission's Wi-Fi networks, broken down by month.

Full statistics are held for the last 6-month period, in this case, June 2024 – November 2024. For the period prior, categorised with \* (in this case November 2023 – May 2024) these contain only the number of blocked attempts for the top 10 sites with the most blocked attempts.

Month	Total number of web filter blocks
November 2023*	12
December 2023*	30

January 2024*	25
February 2024*	22
March 2024*	14
April 2024*	6
May 2024*	16
June 2024	14
July 2024	6
August 2024	18
September 2024	38
October 2024	46
November 2024	18

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that we intend to publish this letter (with your personal details removed) on the Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission's website.

Yours sincerely



Nicky Dirks

**Manager – Ministerial and Executive Services**  
**Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission**