General Disposal Authority

HUMAN RESOURCES AND PERSONNEL RECORDS

ARCHIVES NEW ZEALAND TE RUA MAHARA O TE KĀWANATANGA November 2005











Disposal Authority Number: Agency Coverage: Expiry Date: Scope: Authorised by: DA 100/ GDA 1 All public offices December 2015 All Human Resources and Personnel records The Chief Archivist, Archives New Zealand

GENERAL DISPOSAL AUTHORITY: HUMAN RESOURCES AND PERSONNEL RECORDS

The Human Resources and Personnel Records General Disposal Authority (hereafter GDA) has been developed for the use of public offices wishing to dispose of records legally. Information about using the GDA is contained in the *General Disposal Authorities Implementation Guide*, which should be consulted before the GDA is implemented. The Guide outlines the processes for public offices to follow when implementing the disposal recommendations in the GDA, and gives advice on other recordkeeping issues such as access and transfer.

This GDA does not cover records that relate to a public office's primary duties and responsibilities. For some examples, see section 8 of the Implementation Guide. Before applying this GDA, public offices will need to ascertain which of their records reflecting primary duties or responsibilities fall outside its scope. If you have any queries about this, please contact the Appraisal Section at **appraisal@archives.govt.nz**.

Please note that if a public office has an agency-specific continuing disposal authority relating to the same records covered by this GDA, then the existing disposal authority should be considered the legal authority. If the public office has no agency-specific disposal authorities relating to such records, then this GDA should be considered the legal authority. If the public office signed up to this GDA under the former Archives Act, then this GDA remains the legal authority. For further information or advice, please contact the Appraisal Section.

The disposal authorisations are:

- Retain as public archive = transfer to the control of the Chief Archivist at the end of the public office retention period, or any period of agreed deferral of transfer.
- Destroy = destruction to be carried out in a secure manner. It is not mandatory to destroy records at the end of the retention period – the records may be retained for longer.
- Retain for appraisal = arrange for the records to be appraised and refer the Appraisal Report to the Appraisal Section at Archives New Zealand.

These general instructions apply to the entire authority:

- This authority covers all records, including paper and electronic formats. Under the Public Records Act 2005 a public record is, briefly, a record created or received by a public office in the conduct of its affairs, while a record is information that is compiled, recorded or stored in any format.
- > Records examples are only representative of records types, and are not an exhaustive list.
- The onus is on each agency to establish its legal obligations for records retention. Primary legislation covering Human Resources and Personnel records is cited in the "Agency Retention Period" column of the authority. However, this GDA does not provide a definitive identification of record retention requirements under statute or statutory regulation.
- If you think that a record marked for destruction ought to be preserved permanently, DO NOT DESTROY IT. Contact the Appraisal section of Archives New Zealand to arrange for the record to be assessed.
- Class 1.5 in the following authority is not an authority to destroy the following types of personnel records:
 - The staff of Security and Intelligence agencies (including Security Intelligence Service, Government Communications Security Bureau, External Assessments Bureau, Inspector General of Intelligence and Security Office) or equivalent staff employed by other public offices.
 - Professional medical staff of District Health Boards and any other public offices employing similar staff.
 - Professional staff of tertiary institutions (including Universities, Polytechnics and equivelant institutions).
 - Members of New Zealand Military Forces (Navy, Airforce and Army).
 - Sworn Police Officers.
 - Professional Firefighters.

If uncertain whether the personnel staff files of your agency should be destroyed under class 1.5, please contact the Appraisal Section of Archives New Zealand for advice.

> All records created prior to 1946 must be retained for appraisal.

A valid disposal authority is not a defence or excuse for destroying or otherwise disposing of records for a fraudulent or illegal purpose.

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NO.	RECORD CLASS DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLES OF RECORDS (Note: The examples are only representative of records types, and are not an exhaustive list)	AGENCY RETENTION PERIOD	DISPOSAL ACTION
<u>1.0</u>	CIVILIAN PERSONNEL FILES Section 1.0 excludes the personnel files from agencies for which the particular nature of that public office's role and/or staff responsibilities makes the destruction of records ordinarily destroyed under class 1.5 inappropriate. More examples of such types of records are listed in the introduction but they include personnel files of: intelligence and security staff '; professional medical and tertiary staff; military personnel; sworn police officers; and professional firefighters. Such records should be held for separate appraisal.			
1.1	Chief Executive Officers (or equivalent) Personnel Files of Chief Executive Officers	Chief Executive Officers' personnel files	10 years after last date of employment (Records may need to be retained longer for administrative reasons, e.g. rights & entitlements to long service leave, superannuation, etc.)	Retain as public archive
1.2	Corporate 2nd Tier Managers/Statutory Officers Personnel files of corporate level 2nd tier managers who report directly to the agency's Chief Executive Officer, & staff holding a statutory office designated in legislation	 Corporate level 2nd tier managers' personnel files Statutory Officers' personnel files 	10 years after last date of employment (Records may need to be retained longer for administrative reasons, e.g. rights & entitlements to long service leave, superannuation, etc.)	Retain as public archive
1.3	 Staff Who Received Significant Honours, Achieved High Distinction, etc. Personnel files of staff who received significant awards or honours, &/or achieved high distinction or fame, such as: National honours, e.g. Order of New Zealand, Order of Merit National/international academic awards, e.g. honorary doctorates, academic medals, literary prizes National/international sporting awards, e.g. Olympic medals, world titles 	• Staff personnel files (This section should only be applied where such personnel files are easily identifiable)	10 years after last date of employment (Records may need to be retained longer for administrative reasons, e.g. rights & entitlements to long service leave, superannuation, etc.)	Retain as public archive

¹For example: Security Intelligence Service, Government Communications Security Bureau, External Assessments Bureau, Inspector-General of Intelligence & Security Office



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NO.	RECORD CLASS DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLES OF RECORDS (Note: The examples are only representative of records types, and are not an exhaustive list)	AGENCY RETENTION PERIOD	DISPOSAL ACTION
1.4	Staff Dismissed for Serious Misconduct or Major Criminal Offences Personnel files of staff dismissed for serious misconduct or major criminal offences (Note: Before implementing this Section, read the requirements of Section 1.6)	Staff personnel files	7 years after last date of employment (Records may need to be retained longer for administrative reasons, e.g. rights & entitlements to long service leave, superannuation, etc.)	Destroy
1.5	Other Personnel Staff Files Personnel files of all other staff not covered by Section 1.1 – 1.4 (Note: Before implementing this Section, read the requirements of Section 1.6)	• Staff personnel files	7 years after last date of employment (Records may need to be retained longer for administrative reasons, e.g. rights & entitlements to long service leave, superannuation, etc.)	Destroy
1.6	Summaries of Employee Histories Summaries of personnel history from information systems documenting employee details. As a minimum requirement agencies are to produce a readily accessible record that contains the following employee information: • Name • Employment Location • Date of birth • Positions held & salary • Dates of employment • Gender If readily able to be produced, then the following information should also be contained in the employee summary information records: • Marital Status • Occupational Grading level • Educational Qualifications	 The records that are likely to contain the summary employee information for retention include: Personal file cover sheets (remove from personal files) Employee summary sheets Staff/salary cards Service Schedules Service Schedules Service records cards Information within electronic databases Other summary records For most agencies this information in more recent years will be in electronic form Note: If an agency is unable to easily produce the personnel history summaries containing the above information, then it should contact Archives New Zealand before implementing Section 1.5	10 years after date of last action	Retain as public archive







NO.	RECORD CLASS DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLES OF RECORDS (Note: The examples are only representative of records types, and are not an exhaustive list)	AGENCY RETENTION PERIOD	DISPOSAL ACTION
1.7	Employee Indices/Finding Aids Employee indices &/or finding aids	Staff index cardsStaff registers	10 years after date of last action	Retain as public archive
<u>2.0</u>	POLICY & PROCEDURES (Note: This section only applies to Human Resources and Personnel Records Policy & Procedures)			
2.1	Corporate Policy & Procedures Records that document corporate & strategic level policy & procedures, and that provided the authority for decision-making. [Corporate/strategic level policy & procedures in most agencies will be those developed at the central or/& at head office, and applied agency wide.]	 Policy & procedure manuals Standard employment contract conditions Standard conditions of employment Standards of practice Personnel & staff circulars Policy directives & memoranda Guidelines for employee relations Codes of conduct 	Until superseded & administratively no longer required for reference purposes	Retain as public archive
2.2	Administrative Policy & Procedures Administrative policy & procedures developed to facilitate the implementation of corporate & strategic level policies, procedures, directives and instructions. (Administrative policy & procedures within agencies will generally have been developed at the lower level of the organisation, e.g. operational head office level, regional/district office, workplace level, etc.)	 Time recording requirements Training procedures Instruction on applying for allowances 	7 years after date of last action	Destroy
2.3	Major Reviews Major Human Resource Management reviews, reports & evaluations that significantly impact on policies and procedures	 Review of organisational structures Change management proposals Evaluation of key policy initiatives 	10 years after date of last action	Retain as public archive







NO.	RECORD CLASS DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLES OF RECORDS (Note: The examples are only representative of records types, and are not an exhaustive list)	AGENCY RETENTION PERIOD	DISPOSAL ACTION
<u>3.0</u>	PLANNING & REPORTING (Note: This section only applies to Human Resources and Personnel Records Planning & Reporting			
3.1	Corporate Planning & Reporting Consolidated corporate & strategic Human Resources planning & accountability reporting record	 Annual & strategic plans Consolidated management reports on overall Human Resources activities & directions Monitoring of performance against targets Corporate consolidated staff level & appointment census statistics Corporate consolidated summary of EEO (Equal Employment Opportunities) statistics & profiles 	10 years after date of last action	Retain as public archive
3.2	Administrative Planning & Reporting Low-level administrative planning & reporting records, which will generally have been developed at lower levels of the organisation, e.g. operational head office level, regional/district office, workplace level, etc.	 Monthly staff returns Low-level staffing charts and statistics Regional/district training plans 	7 years after date of last action	Destroy
3.3	Management Meetings Minutes & agendas of key internal Human Resources management meetings	 Minutes of meetings that record significant decision-making & rationale on which decisions based 	10 years after date of last action	Retain as public archive
3.4	Organisational & Staffing Structure Consolidated summarised corporate level records that give the agency organisational & staffing structures	 Consolidated organisational charts Annual consolidated summaries of staff establishment numbers & structure 	10 years after date of last action	Retain as public archive
3.5	Delegations Human Resources delegation & authorities	Written authority given to managers allowing hiring & promotion of staff, creation of new positions, transfer of staff, etc.	7 years after date of last action	Destroy







NO.	RECORD CLASS DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLES OF RECORDS (Note: The examples are only representative of records types, and are not an exhaustive list)	AGENCY RETENTION PERIOD	DISPOSAL ACTION
<u>4.0</u>	LEAVE & ATTENDANCE			
4.1	Leave Documentation of the various types of leave requested & taken by staff	 Leave cards Leave balances Leave applications Leave approvals/confirmations 	 7 years after date of last action Holidays Act 1981, s.31 Employers to keep holiday books 	Destroy
4.2	Attendance Attendance records & use of time	 Timesheets Attendance registers Time-use recording Training/conference attendance returns 	 7 years after date of last action Minimum Wage Act 1983, s.8A Wages & time records Employment Relations Act 2000, s.130 Wages & time records 	Destroy
<u>5.0</u>	RECRUITMENT & SELECTION			
5.1	EEO Recruitment Issues Management of major EEO (Equal Employment Opportunities) recruitment initiatives and programmes sponsored by agency	 Maori and Pacific Island recruitment Monitoring of programme effectiveness Targeted recruitment by gender 	10 years after date of last action	Retain as public archive
5.2	National/Regional Recruitment Programmes Management of national &/or regional recruitment programmes sponsored by agency	 Graduate recruitment Cadetships Apprenticeships Scholarships/bursaries Police/military/teacher recruitment 	10 years after date of last action	Retain as public archive
5.3	Recruitment & Selection Processing Administration of recruitment & selection processing	 Advertising of positions Contracts with consultants Applicant curriculum vitae Selection interviews & notes Testing of applicants Reference checks Staff appointments Vacancies/appointments bulletins Vacancy files Work experience Appeals Administration of recruitment programmes 	Until administratively no longer required	Destroy

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NO.	RECORD CLASS DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLES OF RECORDS (Note: The examples are only representative of records types, and are not an exhaustive list)	AGENCY RETENTION PERIOD	DISPOSAL ACTION
6.0	PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT/STAFF ASSESSMENTS Planning and evaluation of staff performance	 Staff performance plans Staff performance agreements Assessment interviews Performance review reports Judgements/decisions after performance reviews Administration of performance management system 	7 years after date of last action	Destroy
<u>7.0</u>	PAYROLL/SALARIES			
7.1	Salary Rates & Ranges Salary/wage rates and ranges scales for staff occupational groups and positions	 Rates charts that show salary ranges for positions within occupation groups 	7 years after date of last action	Destroy
7.2	Payroll Management Information Systems Records dealing with the purchase, installation, operation, testing and maintenance of payroll management information systems, including both manual & electronic systems	 Purchase & maintenance agreements/contracts Installation planning Upgrade & modification documentation 	Keep current while system is active	Destroy when system is defunct
7.3	Payroll Administration Operational records relating to the administration of payments to staff	 Payroll input data Payroll deduction authorities Payroll distribution Payroll printouts Salary/wage cards Salary/wage cards Salary/wage calculations Employee pay records ACC employer & staff levies Redundancy payments Travel & accommodation reimbursements Allowance payrents Employer superannuation subsidies Information and Payroll Service (PIPS) Pay advice sheets Direct credit schedules Contract worker invoices Automatic payments/ deductions Summary pay reports 	 7 years after date of last action Minimum Wage Act 1983, s.8A Wages & time records Goods & Services Tax Act 1985, s.75 Keeping of records Tax Administration Act 1994, s.24 Records to be kept by employers Employment Relations Act 2000, s.130 Wages & time records 	Destroy







NO.	RECORD CLASS DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLES OF RECORDS (Note: The examples are only representative of records types, and are not an exhaustive list)	AGENCY RETENTION PERIOD	DISPOSAL ACTION
7.4	Employee Taxation Personnel records relating to Tax & IRD	 Employee taxation records PAYE (Pay As You Earn) returns to IRD Yearly reports showing totals for student loans repayments Child support payments 	 7 years after date of last action or when no longer required to be retained under legislation Tax Administration Act 1994, s.24 Records to be kept by employers 	Destroy
7.5	Payroll Audit Records relating to routine auditing of the integrity of the payroll system & payments	Audit reportsWorking substantiation papers	7 years after date of last action	Destroy
<u>8.0</u>	EMPLOYEE HEALTH, SAFETY & WELFARE			
8.1	Occupational Health & Safety Committee Operation of agency Occupational Health & Safety Committee(s)	Meeting minutesAgendaWorking papers	7 years after date of last action	Destroy
8.2	Occupational Health & Safety Planning Occupational Health & Safety planning and hazard identification	 Plans Hazard identification Working papers 	7 years after date of last action	Destroy
8.3	Accident Agreements & Contracts Agreements/contracts with Accident Compensation Commission &/or other accident insurers	 Agreements/contracts with Accident Compensation Commission &/or other accident insurers 	When all conditions have been met & administratively no longer required for reference	Destroy
8.4	Accident & First Aid Records Accident & first aid records (e.g. sick room register), except those involving fatalities &/or prosecution	 Accident reports First aid records (e.g. sick room register) 	7 years after date of last action or when no longer legally required to be retained Health & Safety in Employment Act 1992, s.25 Recording & notification of accidents & serious harm	Destroy

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NO.	RECORD CLASS DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLES OF RECORDS (Note: The examples are only representative of records types, and are not an exhaustive list)	AGENCY RETENTION PERIOD	DISPOSAL ACTION
8.5	Accident Fatalities &/or Prosecution Accident records covering fatalities &/or prosecution	 Agency fatalities accident record Agency records on prosecution 	10 years after date of last action	Retain as public archive
8.6	Superannuation & Medical Schemes Managed by Agency Significant documents relating to the agency direct management of employee superannuation & medical schemes	 All trust deeds & rules Trustee minute books Fund's annual accounts Investment policy Investment records Actuarial valuation reports 	 10 years after date of last action Tax Administration Act 1994, s.34A Records to be provided by employer who contributes to superannuation fund 	Retain as public archive
8.7	Superannuation & Medical Schemes Managed Externally Superannuation & medical schemes not managed by the agency but by an external body (e.g. insurance company, Government Superannuation Fund)	 Duplicates of documents held by external body Information-only records 	7 years after date of last action	Destroy
8.8	Employee Surveys Summary reports of surveys of employees' attitudes & concerns	Summary reports of survey results	10 years after date of last action	Retain as public archive
8.9	Health, Safety & Welfare Administration Administration of OHS (Occupational, Health & Safety), staff welfare & support services	 Safety administration Accident Compensation claims/returns Vaccination and Health Checks Workplace support services (staff counselling) Employee assistance programmes Survey questionnaires/forms Employment of Medical Practitioners 	7 years after date of last action	Destroy
8.10	Assistance to Staff Groups Employer assistance to staff groups, e.g. Staff social club, Employee sports teams, etc.	 Records relating to agency funding, sponsorship or other assistance 	7 years after date of last action	Destroy
8.11	Social/Sports Clubs Records relating to staff social activities & social/sports club records	 Minutes of social & sports clubs Account records 	7 years after date of last action	Destroy







NO.	RECORD CLASS DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLES OF RECORDS (Note: The examples are only representative of records types, and are not an exhaustive list)	AGENCY RETENTION PERIOD	DISPOSAL ACTION
<u>9.0</u>	ADMINISTRATIVE RECORDS			
9.1	Routine Returns Routine Human Resources returns to external organisations	 Labour & Statistics Departments returns (e.g. stoppage returns to Labour Department) EEO returns to State Services Commission 	7 years after date of last action	Destroy
9.2	Published, Reference & Information-Only Records Copies of externally published, reference and information- only records.	 Public Service Manual & amendments State Services Commission & Treasury circulars & directives 	Administratively no longer required for reference purposes	Destroy
9.3	Nominations for Awards & Honours Records covering agency's nomination of staff for major honours, awards, etc. (e.g. New Zealand's honours awards)	Copy of agency nominations	10 years after date of last action	Retain as public archive
9.4	Standard Employment Documentation Standard records that relate to employment, establishment of positions, organisational & staffing structures not covered by Section 3.4	 Position justification Desk files Position specifications Individual contracts Job evaluation/sizing of individual positions Organisational/establishment charts (that are not covered by Section 3.4) Establishment files Administration of accommodation & housing assistance 	7 years after date of last action	Destroy
9.5	Travel Administration Records relating to the administration of travel by agency employees	 Travel applications Travel insurance Travel plans Travel club memberships (e.g. Koru Club) Communication with travel agents Accommodation bookings Taxi chits Car rentals Foreign exchange bank drafts Travel advances & expenses Routine correspondence 	7 years after date of last action	Destroy







NO.	RECORD CLASS DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLES OF RECORDS (Note: The examples are only representative of records types, and are not an exhaustive list)	AGENCY RETENTION PERIOD	DISPOSAL ACTION
9.6	Routine Human Resources Records Records covering routine & low-level Human Resources transactions & administration	 Minor & routine employment relation matters Routine administration Administrative reports Information requests General correspondence Duplicates & copies of documents Staff departure administration (e.g. exit interviews) Release of staff Credit card administration Copies of printouts Forms design & printing Reference-only information from external bodies (e.g. brochures, circulars) 	Until administratively no longer required	Destroy
9.7	Rental Payments & Agreements Employee accommodation rental payments	Rental paymentsAccommodation agreements	7 years after date of last action	Destroy
9.8	Records & Management Information Systems Records dealing with the purchase, installation, testing and maintenance of human resources & personnel records & management information systems, including both manual & electronic systems	 Purchase & maintenance agreements/contracts Installation planning Upgrade & modification documentation 	Keep current while system is active	Destroy when system is defunct
<u>10.0</u>	EMPLOYMENT RELATED LEGISLATION			
10.1	Significant Submissions on Legislation Significant agency submissions and input on employment legislation	 Written submission by agency on legislation Management briefing notes/papers for agency staff attendance at Cabinet & Select Committees 	10 years after date of last action	Retain as public archive
10.2	Significant Legal Opinions Significant precedent setting legal opinions relating to employment policies & practices within the agency	 Legal opinions that set precedent 	10 years after date of last action	Retain as public archive







NO.	RECORD CLASS DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLES OF RECORDS (Note: The examples are only representative of records types, and are not an exhaustive list)	AGENCY RETENTION PERIOD	DISPOSAL ACTION
10.3	Minor Legislative Submissions & Legal Opinions Minor employment legal opinions, & low level & routine submissions on employment legislation	 Agency submissions on legislation that do not contain any major points Legal opinions that set no significant precedent 	7 years after date of last action	Destroy
<u>11.0</u>	EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS			
11.1	Collective Agreement Collective agreements, or equivalent, with unions	Collective agreements, awards & contracts	 When all conditions have been met & administratively no longer required <i>Employment Relations Act 2000, s95 requires that a copy of every collective agreement be sent to the Chief Executive of the Department of Labour</i> 	Destroy
11.2	Negotiations with Unions Records covering major negotiations, discussions & disputes with unions, e.g. pay & condition negotiations, strike action, stop works, lockouts, etc.	Minutes of meetingsSignificant correspondence	10 years after date of last action	Retain as public archive
11.3	State Services Commission & Employer Groups Significant dealings with State Services Commission &/or employer groups (e.g. Employers Federation)	 Minutes of meetings Significant correspondence with unions 	10 years after date of last action	Retain as public archive
11.4	Individual Staff Grievances, Disputes & Dismissals Staff grievances, disputes, discrimination complaints, disciplinary matters & dismissals (Major precedent cases will be on public record in the proceedings of bodies like the Employment Tribunal, Employment Relations Authority, Employment Court, etc.)	 Records documenting individual cases 	7 years after date of last action	Destroy









NO.	RECORD CLASS DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLES OF RECORDS [Note: The examples are only representative of records types, and are not an exhaustive list]	AGENCY RETENTION PERIOD	DISPOSAL ACTION
<u>12.0</u>	TRAINING & CAREER DEVELOPMENT			
12.1	Operational Administration Operational administration of training & career development	 Training needs analysis Competency models Course syllabi & curricula Training & development Staff rotation plans/schedules Career management planning Routine planning Course nominations Course attendance Timetabling Promotional information/brochures Payment of course fees Course evaluations Promotion information 	7 years after date of last action	Destroy
12.2	Employee Networks Significant staff input to the formation of agency decisions and policies, through employee networks & other similar empowering initiatives	 Meeting minutes Submissions and input into agency policy development 	10 years after date of last action	Retain as public archive
12.3	Industry Training Organisations Major agency input & involvement with Industry Training Organisations &/or tertiary level training/academic institution	Agency submissionsMeeting minutes recording agency input	10 years after date of last action	Retain as public archive
12.4	Post-Study & Training Reports Post-evaluation reports for major study awards & training paid for by the agency	Post-evaluation reports	10 years after date of last action	Retain as public archive
<u>13.0</u>	ALL RECORDS OPENED PRIOR TO 1946	All records opened prior to 1946	10 years after date of last action	Retain for appraisal









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