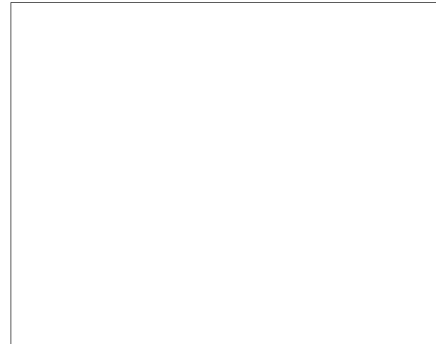




21 MAR 2017



On 1 February 2017, you wrote to the Ministry requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

- *A copy of the evaluation of the "Inside Out" programme.*
- *Did the Secondary Principal's Association [SPANZ] highlight in their 2013 symposium the need to address bullying of transgender students?*
- *What training has been given to teachers to assist them in helping transgender students identify which of the 112 "new genders" they are at any given time?*
- *Copies of any correspondence received from Rainbow New Zealand Parliamentary Network on LGBTQ issues and any responses that the Ministry provided.*

As you are aware, the Inside Out resource was launched in September 2015 and consists of video clips, supported by teaching resources, website and training workshops for users. The resource is designed for use in classrooms to increase understanding of, and support, for gender and sexual diversity.

For the sake of clarity, I have addressed each of your questions in turn.

- *A copy of the evaluation of the "Inside Out" programme.*

An evaluation of the effectiveness of the Inside Out resource at helping schools and youth work settings to support sex, gender and sexuality diversity is currently being undertaken and as such is withheld under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Official Information Act as it is under active consideration. The release of this information is likely to prejudice the ability of government to consider advice and the wider public interest of effective government would not be served.

Regarding the evaluation process and progress, the work in schools has been completed and the results are currently being tested with stakeholders. A final draft of the evaluation report then needs to be considered by the University of Auckland Human Participants Ethics Committee. Upon ethics approval, the Ministry will then consider the document for publication. The Ministry anticipates the evaluation will be

completed in August 2017. At this time, the evaluation will be publicly available and you will be provided with a link to the evaluation on the Ministry's website.

- *Did the Secondary Principal's Association [SPANZ] highlight in their 2013 symposium the need to address bullying of transgender students?*

The Ministry of Social Development and the Ministry of Education do not hold information about what the Secondary Principal's Association (SPANZ) discussed at their symposium. As such, this part of your request is refused under section 18(g) of the Official Information Act (the Act), as the information you have requested is not held by the Ministry and I have no grounds to believe that the information is held by another department or Minister of the Crown or organisation.

- *What training has been given to teachers to assist them in helping transgender students identify which of the 112 "new genders" they are at any given time?*

The Ministry of Social Development does not hold information about the training teachers receive for assisting transgender students to identify with a specific gender. However, information about what the Ministry of Education are doing to support gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender students is available on the Ministry of Education website at: www.education.govt.nz/news/including-gay-lesbian-and-transgender-students/

- *Copies of any correspondence received from Rainbow New Zealand Parliamentary Network on LGBTQ issues and any responses that the Ministry provided.*

The Ministry has not sent or received any correspondence to Rainbow New Zealand Parliamentary Network. Accordingly, your request for this information is refused under section 18(e) of the Act, as this information does not exist.

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 shortly. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter and attachments 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 the evaluation of the Inside Out resource, 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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maree Roberts". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'M' and 'R'.

Maree Roberts

Associate Deputy Chief Executive, Community Investment