



2 February 2022

Tēnā koe

On 30 July 2021, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- 1. Any reports, documents, correspondence or other material, including drafts, dealing with Youthquest's establishment, funding structure and reporting lines, including any later iterations of these matters*
- 2. The number of employees used by Youthquest, and any records relating to the relating to the suitability of those employees to care for at risk youth*
- 3. Any reports, documents, correspondence or other material, including drafts, relating to the approval of Youthquest, and/or any of its employees and or contractors, for the placement of children and young people, including any guidelines or policies relating to this*
- 4. Any complaints, notifications or other documents raising concern about any Youthquest employees or the programme itself, and any documents, correspondence, reports or other material relating to the investigation and outcome of those complaints*
- 5. Any reports, documents, correspondence or other material, including drafts, relating to Youthquest's relationships with other childcare service providers, including Oranga Tamariki.*

On 27 August 2021, the Ministry informed you that more time was required to respond to this request and was extended in accordance with section 15(1) and 15A of the Act. The reason for the extension is that consultations necessary to make a decision on the request are such that a proper response to the request cannot reasonably be made within the original time limit.

On 29 September 2021, the Ministry decided to grant your request in part and noted that it will take some time to prepare this information for release. The Ministry advised that the information would be provided to you by 3 November 2021.

In response to your request, the Ministry provided you a partial release of the information from the Social Services Accreditation unit that has been prepared at that stage:

- *Accreditation assessment report - Youthquest Hawke's Bay Charitable Trust, dated 6 May 2014*
- *Youth Quest Trust Hawke's Bay Approval Assessment Appointment Letter, dated 5 October 2015*
- *Accreditation assessment report - Youthquest Hawke's Bay Charitable Trust, dated 15 September 2015*
- *Accreditation assessment report - Youthquest Hawke's Bay Charitable Trust, dated 10 June 2016*
- *Accreditation assessment report - Youthquest Hawke's Bay Charitable Trust, dated 3 May 2017*
- *Accreditation assessment report - Youthquest Hawke's Bay Charitable Trust, dated 11 May 2017*

The remainder of the information is now provided to you as outlined below:

- *Risk management strategies and supervision plan for [REDACTED], dated 9 February 2015*
- *Re: Exceptional circumstances request under Business Viability 6.5 of the standards for approval, dated 19 February 2015*
- *Memo: Youth Quest Hawke's Bay Charitable Trust (61447) application for exemption for [REDACTED], dated 12 February 2015*
- *Email correspondence regarding Youth Quest, dated 27 February 2014 to 6 July 2018*

You will note that the information of some individuals is withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act in order to protect the privacy of natural persons. The need to protect the privacy of these individuals outweighs any public interest in this information.

Some information is withheld under section 9(2)(h) of the Act in order to maintain legal professional privilege. The greater public interest is in ensuring that government agencies can continue to obtain confidential legal advice.

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 and

attachments on the Ministry'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 regarding Youthquest, please feel free to contact [OIA\\_Requests@msd.govt.nz](mailto:OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz).

If you are not satisfied with this response, 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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'B. Fisk', with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Barry Fisk  
**General Manager**  
**Te Kāhui Kāhu Social Services Accreditation**