



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT**

TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

07 MAY 2021

Tēnā koe

On 11 March 2021, you emailed the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *If there are any documents speaking specifically about the transition from broadly worded Treaty clauses to specifically worded Treaty clauses, I would also like to request these please.*

On 24 March 2021, DPMC refined your request to the following:

- *If there are any policy documents related to Treaty clauses in legislation from at least 1990-2001. Otherwise documents of the same kind as the former, but with a date limit of 1995-2001.*
- *Does Cabinet have any policy documents that relate specifically to the change in wording for Treaty clauses? These would be the type of documents I'd be looking for, but if these are unavailable, then agencies that have included/ are contemplating including Treaty clauses would be beneficial.*

On 12 April 2021, you were advised that your request was partially transferred to the Ministry for Social Development (the Ministry) for response as the Ministry administered legislation relevant to your request (Social Welfare Reform Bill 1996).

The Ministry has undertaken a thorough search for documents relevant to your request and was able to find two documents that are in scope of your request. The Ministry is withholding the release of both documents in full 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.

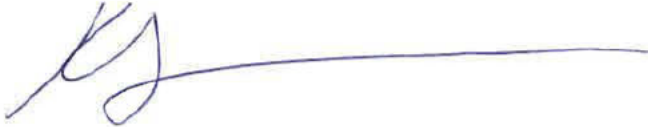
This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter and any attached documents available to the wider public. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter on the Ministry of Social Development's website. Your personal details will be deleted, and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

Page 1 of 2

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, 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.

Ngā mihi nui

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'K' followed by a long horizontal line.

Kate Satterthwaite
General Manager, Ministerial and Executive Services