



26 July 2022

Tēnā koe

On 28 June 2022, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *All information held by the Ministry relating to consultation in relation to the policy issues relating to [the Oversight of Oranga Tamariki System and Children and Young People's Commission Bill].*
- *This request is limited to consultation with children and young people, organisations working on behalf of or with children and young people and with Māori.*
- *The request, includes records of all consultation relied upon for the Beattie report and in relation to the Kahui Group, including (but not limited to) records of who specifically was consulted and what was specifically said by whom and any analysis of that feedback (for example, how many people of what category said a particular point) and any advice given that relies upon or references that consultation.*
- *I recognise that strictly the request covers personal information to be revealed. I am happy for this not to be revealed - for example, a named young person could be identified as Young Person 1.*
- *I am happy to discuss methods of limiting the scope of and work involved in meeting this request (I would also welcome being pointed to any publicly available material (I have not identified any) - at the heart of my request is the desire to understand fully the quality of the consultation that has taken place in regard to the Bill, since it is being relied on so significantly in the defence of the Bill.*

Appendices 1 and 2 of the Ministry's Departmental Report, *Oversight Oranga Tamariki System and Children and Young People's Commission Bill* (April 2022) contains details on who the Ministry consulted as part of our hui with Māori in 2019, and the key themes from what the Ministry heard in those conversations. The report is available at the following link:

www.parliament.nz/resource/en-NZ/53SCSS_ADV_116701_SS3602/33120a5440ccb786217c0e2bb92f14c05174ff80

You may find the Ministry's report following consultation with children and young people *Insights from Children and Young People that are relevant to the Review of Independent Oversight of Oranga Tamariki and Children's issues* (2018), is included as Appendix 1 to the Supplementary information provided to Select Committee on 11 April 2022, and is available at the following link:

www.parliament.nz/resource/en-NZ/53SCSS_ADV_116701_SS3635/a0c7a9995d75e110c70671bdb4e5aff205050e0e.

The post-consultation Report, *Strengthening independent oversight of the Oranga Tamariki system and of children's issues in New Zealand* (2018) acknowledges that the consultation included Māori, NGOs, Judges, academics, Pacific Peoples, health professionals, past Children's Commissioners, statutory bodies such as the Children's Commissioner, Chief Ombudsman, the Privacy Commissioner and chief executives of the relevant public sector agencies. This report includes a summary of themes arising out of 35 face to face meetings or teleconferences with groups and individuals, a hui with Māori providers, and 33 written submissions. Furthermore, it also drew from insights gained from other consultations with care experienced young people that had been conducted around the time, including:

- Oranga Tamariki: Care experienced children's workshops – May/June 2018
- Specialist Foster Care for Remand Youth Engagement – 2017
- Assess Plan Implement and Review (APIR) Rangatahi Forum – 2015
- Voices of Children Interviews Expert Advisory Panel – 2015, and
- CYF Modernisation Youth Voices Workshop – 2014.

You may find this information at the following link:

www.msd.govt.nz/documents/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/information-releases/strengthening-independent-oversight/post-consultation-report-independent-oversight.pdf.

In relation to the Ministry's correspondence with Te Kāhui, consultations with Te Kāhui was iterative and ongoing for over the course of two years and was captured and reflected in our advice to the Minister and in Cabinet papers.

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 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.

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 all information held by the Ministry in relation to the policy issues relating to the Oversight of Oranga Tamariki System and Children and Young People's Commission Bill, 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.

Nga mihi nui,



Melissa Cathro
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Child and Youth Policy