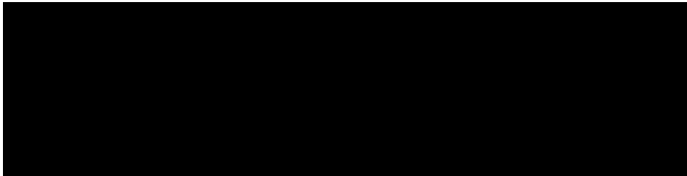




16 OCT 2018



Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 18 September 2018, to Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children (Oranga Tamariki) requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- 1 *Children and young people in the custody of the Chief Executive (by ethnicity)*
- 2 *Children and young people in out of home placements (broken down by placement type)*
- 3 *Approved caregivers by care type.*

You subsequently requested:

*For the year June 2017 to June 2018 how many notifications of concern about distinct children (i.e. not the number of times concerns have been reported which could skew the actual number of children of concern) broken down by ethnicity.*

I will address each part of your request separately. Please note that Oranga Tamariki reports differently to the way the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) reported its data regarding the former Child, Youth and Family. This means that our data may not be accurately comparative with the data provided by MSD in previous years.

- 1 *Children and young people in the custody of the Chief Executive (by ethnicity)*

**Table one: Number of distinct children and young people in the custody of the Chief Executive of Oranga Tamariki by ethnicity as at 30 June 2018**

Ethnicity	Number of distinct children and young people as at 30 June 2018
Māori	3,716
Pacific	405
Māori Pacific	549
Other	1,695
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,365</b>

Oranga Tamariki does not report based on a primary ethnicity. The ethnicity data provided is based on all ethnicities recorded for each young person. Ethnicity is self-identified (for a child, we ask the family to identify the child's ethnicity).

A description of the ethnic groups we have used for reporting are:

- **Māori** children who identify Māori (but not Pacific) as one of their ethnicities;
- **Pacific** children who identify Pacific (but not Māori) as one of their ethnicities;
- **Māori and Pacific** children who identify both Māori and Pacific as ethnicities; and
- **Other children** who do not identify Māori or Pacific as any of their ethnicities.

The Oranga Tamariki Act 1989 sets out requirements for annual reporting on measurable outcomes for Māori children and young persons who come to the attention of Oranga Tamariki.

## 2 Children and young people in out of home placements (broken down by placement type)

**Table two: The number of distinct children and young people in the custody of the Chief Executive in out of home placements by placement type as at 30 June 2018**

Placement Type	Distinct children and young people as at 30 June 2018
Family/whānau placement	2,748
Non-family/whānau placement	1,363
Child and Family Support Services	575
Family Home placement	157
Residential placement	25
Other supported accommodation	170
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,038</b>

We have not included the placement types 'independent living,' 'remain home' and 'return home' as these are not considered out of home placements.

## 3 Approved caregivers by care type

The following tables show the number of approved caregivers broken down by caregiver type as at 30 June 2018.

**Table three: Total number of Oranga Tamariki approved caregivers as at 30 June 2018**

Caregiver type	As at 30 June 2018
Non-family/ whānau caregivers	1,459
Family/whānau caregivers	2,346
<b>Total approved caregivers</b>	<b>3,805</b>

The figures for approved caregivers includes those that currently have a child placed with them and caregivers that are currently without a child placement, but are available to provide care. At any given time it is vital that we have a range of available caregivers. Children and young people are placed with caregivers that meet the specific needs of the child, including cultural, geographical, age and special needs considerations and there are a variety of types of caregiving, including emergency care, respite care, transitional care and family home care, and a caregiver may only be available or approved for one or a variety of these categories.

*For the year June 2017 to June 2018 how many notifications of concern about distinct children (i.e. not the number of times concerns have been reported which could skew the actual number of children of concern) broken down by ethnicity.*

A Report of Concern (ROC) is the term used by Oranga Tamariki to describe information provided to us by a person who is concerned about the welfare of a child or young person. Table four below details the information we hold regarding the number of distinct children and young people that have had ROCs made about them to Oranga Tamariki in the year 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018.

When we receive a ROC, we do not always collect information about the ethnicity of a child or young person at that stage. ROCs can be made by people who may not have detailed or accurate knowledge of a child's ethnicity.

Please also note that ROCs do not automatically result in intervention by Oranga Tamariki and may require no further action. There are many reasons for which ROCs are made.

**Table four: Number of Reports of Concern received for distinct children in the year 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018**

<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Number of distinct children where a Report of Concern has been received between 1 July 2017 and 30 June 2018</b>
Māori	27,660
Māori Pacific	2,999
Pacific	6,087
Other	19,253
Unknown	8,930
<b>Total ROCs</b>	<b>64,929</b>

As detailed above, Oranga Tamariki does not report based on a primary ethnicity. The ethnicity data provided is based on all ethnicities recorded for each young person. Ethnicity is self-identified (for a child, we ask the family to identify the child's ethnicity).

A description of the ethnic groups we have used for reporting are:

- **Māori** children who identify Māori (but not Pacific) as one of their ethnicities;

- **Pacific** children who identify Pacific (but not Māori) as one of their ethnicities;
- **Māori and Pacific** children who identify both Māori and Pacific as ethnicities; and
- **Other children** who do not identify Māori or Pacific as any of their ethnicities.

The Oranga Tamariki Act 1989 sets out requirements for annual reporting on measurable outcomes for tamariki Māori and rangatahi who come to the attention of Oranga Tamariki.

We intend to make the information contained in this letter available to the wider public shortly. We will do this by publishing this letter on the Oranga Tamariki website. Your personal details will be deleted and we 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@ot.govt.nz](mailto:OIA_Requests@ot.govt.nz).

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision. Information about this is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by contacting them on 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Steve Groom  
**General Manager Public, Ministerial and Executive Services**