

OIA-CE-2025-02855

7 April 2025

s9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe s9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email, received on 24 April 2025, to Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children (Oranga Tamariki) requesting information regarding reporting of privacy breaches at Oranga Tamariki by Social Workers. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

You have requested:

- *Does Oranga Tamariki report their breaches that led or could cause harm within 72 hours of the breaches to the Privacy Commission) as evidenced in today's Radio New Zealand report on a large number of breaches, and maybe of a sensitive nature*
- *If and when a privacy is breached at Oranga Tamariki by a Social Worker, if it is reported to the Social Worker Registration Board.*
- *Is this something that gets reported and sorted internally within Oranga Tamariki or does it go beyond the Social Worker Registration Board.*

Oranga Tamariki complies with its obligations under the Privacy Act 2020 to report to the Office of the Privacy Commissioner any privacy breach that has caused or is likely to cause serious harm.

As most breaches are caused by simple human error, Oranga Tamariki will not typically report privacy breaches to the Social Workers Registration Board. However, each breach is assessed on its own merit, and if the breach involves misconduct or serious misconduct, the Social Worker Registration Board may be notified.

Additionally, if the breach involves deliberate or malicious behaviour that constitutes misconduct or serious misconduct, internal processes will be followed to address the behaviour, which may include disciplinary action.

IN-CONFIDENCE

Oranga Tamariki may make the information contained in this letter available to the public by publishing this on our website with your personal details removed.

I trust you find this information useful. Should you have any concerns with this response, I would encourage you to raise them with Oranga Tamariki. Alternatively, you are advised of your right to also raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. Information about this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by contacting them on 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Emily Hockly', with a stylized, cursive script.

Emily Hockly
Chief Legal Officer
System Leadership