

OT-OIA-2026-0195

30 June 2026

s9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe

Thank you for your email, received on 15 June 2026, to Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children (Oranga Tamariki) requesting information about youth crime in Hawke's Bay. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

You have requested:

[...] The Herald article on this topic ([Youth crime: Behind the drop in serious and persistent young offenders - NZ Herald](#)) references an Oranga Tamariki aide-memoire from February 2026 stating that the increase in serious and persistent youth offending within the Eastern District relates specifically to Hawke's Bay.

Would Oranga Tamariki be able to provide a copy of that aide-memoire, or the relevant section of it?

Could you provide the Hawke's Bay-specific figures that underpin that statement?

I have responded to each part of your request below.

Would Oranga Tamariki be able to provide a copy of that aide-memoire, or the relevant section of it?

We have interpreted your request to relate to [Government Targets 3](#) and advice provided by Oranga Tamariki.

Please find enclosed as **Appendix A** information identified in scope of your request, and listed below for your convenience:

- OT-B-2025-0075 – Aide Memoire – Justice Sector Ministers meeting – 19 February 2026 (please note this is provided as an excerpt under section 16(1)(e) of the Act, where information may be made available by providing an excerpt or summary of the contents).

Could you provide the Hawke's Bay-specific figures that underpin that statement?

As of June 2023 (baseline) and December 2025, the Government Target 3 in the Hawkes Bay Area within the Eastern Police District, by most serious offence type figures, is provided in the table below:

Most serious offence	June 2023	December 2025
Burglary	16	17
Robbery-related	3	7
Illegal use of a motor vehicle	4	6
All other offences	4	4

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



Emma Powell
Deputy Chief Executive System Leadership

Appendix A

Excerpt from OT-B-2025-0075 – Aide Memoire – Justice Sector Ministers meeting – 19 February 2026.

Government Target 3 numbers, by Police District, June 2023 (baseline) and December 2025

Police District	Jun-23	Dec-25	% change
Eastern	41	45	+10%

Overall, the Eastern District experienced a 10 percent increase in offending between the 2023 baseline and December 2025. However, within this trend, numbers peaked in February 2025 and have fallen significantly since. There has been an 18 percent reduction from the February peak by the end of 2025.

Talking points

Overall, the Eastern District experienced a 10 percent increase in offending between the 2023 baseline and December 2025. However, within this trend, numbers peaked in February 2025 and have fallen significantly since. The increase relates specifically to the Hawke's Bay part of the district.

Additional key context

Eastern District had the lowest number of children and young people with serious and persistent offending behaviour of all Police Districts at the 30 June 2023 baseline (41, compared with an average of 91 across all districts).