

29 MAR 2019

Dear Mr [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 6 March 2019 to Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children (Oranga Tamariki), requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- *The guidelines about what information is considered when writing a section 132 of the Care of Children Act 2004 report. Why you are unable to add information to the report.*

Our priority, first and foremost, is to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children. This means the decisions we make are child-centred to focus on better outcomes and experiences.

The section 132 Care of Children Act 2004 report, is requested when the Family Court Judge requests information from Oranga Tamariki. The judge determines the scope of the section 132 report such as, who the social worker can talk with and the type of information to be included.

The section 132 report, while written by an Oranga Tamariki social worker is owned by the Family Court, therefore, once the section 132 report is completed, it is the property of the Family Court. Any changes to the section 132 report would be court directed.

If there are any care and protection concerns identified then a report of concern can be made to Oranga Tamariki for further assessment.

There is a Joint Protocol between the Department for Courts (now the Ministry of Justice) and the Department of Child, Youth and Family Services (now Oranga Tamariki) which is a historical document used to guide practice in this area. It is available on the Ministry of Justice website at the following website address:

- <https://www.justice.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Publications/fc-joint-protocol-moj-cyf.pdf>

Oranga Tamariki intends to make the information contained in this letter and available to the wider public shortly. We will do this by publishing this letter on our 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.

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 or by contacting them on 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Steve Groom
General Manager Public, Ministerial and Executive Services