

26 JUL 2019



[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 20 June 2019 to Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children (Oranga Tamariki), requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- *I request all correspondence (letters, emails, faxes, texts and instant messaging) regarding the decision not to use data analytics/algorithmic profiling for use in operational decision-making by Oranga Tamariki.*

In 2016 the Ministry of Social Development commissioned a project relating to the use of statistical risk modelling within intake decision making at the former Child, Youth and Family. The report from this project is available on our website at the following link:

<https://www.orangatamariki.govt.nz/research/latest-research/helping-social-workers/>.

In 2017 we responded to a similar request for information, which included the documents *Overview and Next Steps for the Enhancing Intake Decision-making Project* dated 31 October 2016 and *Aide-Memoire – Enhancing Intake Decision-Making Trial* dated 4 October 2017. This response can be found on our website at the following website address:

<https://www.orangatamariki.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/OIA-responses/reports-documents/20171016-Enhancing-Intake-Decision-Making-Trial-Report.pdf>.

You will note in the aide-memoire that no decisions were made about timeframes regarding the Enhancing Intake Decision-making Project or the future use of predictive risk modelling by Oranga Tamariki since its establishment on 1 April 2017. I have been advised by our Evidence Centre that this remains the case. As such, your request for all correspondence relating to "the decision not to use data analytics/algorithmic profiling

for use in operational decision-making by Oranga Tamariki" is refused under section 18(e) of the Act, as the information requested does not exist.

For your reference, we have also responded to another similar request made under the Act. This response is available on our website at the following website address:

<https://www.orangatamariki.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/20180326-Algorithmic-profiling.pdf>

Oranga Tamariki intends to make the information contained in this letter 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](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**