



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT**

TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

**31 AUG 2016**

Dear

On 8 June 2016, you emailed the Ministry requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

*All evaluation reports on the six programmes being transferred from the Ministry of Social Development to three commissioning agencies to support Whānau Ora outcomes:*

- *Break Thru (youth gang) Programme*
- *Early Years' Service Hubs*
- *Family Service Centres*
- *Family Support Services*
- *Whānau Toko I Te Ora*
- *Youth at risk of Offending – Wraparound Services.*

On 20 June 2016, you refined your request to: *All reports that informed the decision to transfer the programmes to Whānau Ora.*

As you are aware, the Government is transferring up to \$11.38 million in funding and programmes from the Ministry of Social Development to support Whānau Ora. The transfer is part of a review of social service spending which aims to achieve better outcomes for the most vulnerable whānau and families. The transfer will support the whānau-centred integration of social services at the community level.

Although Whānau Ora is grounded in concepts of Te Ao Māori, Whānau Ora is not just for Māori families, but is for anyone who calls New Zealand home. The strategic direction for Whānau Ora is set by the Whānau Ora Partnership Group. The Partnership Group, which is chaired by the Minister for Whānau Ora, is comprised of six Iwi Chair representatives and the Ministers of Finance, Education, Health, Social Development and Economic Development.

Te Puni Kōkiri commissions Whānau Ora outcomes from non-government commissioning agencies. This brings funding and funding decisions closer to the community. The commissioning model allows for flexible and innovative approaches to providing services to meet whānau needs and a clear performance focus. The Whānau Ora commissioning approach is showing promising indicators of improved outcomes for vulnerable whānau and families with whom many providers have traditionally struggled to engage.

The programmes and funding chosen for transfer align with the Whānau Ora approach and the outcomes in which Whānau Ora commissioning agencies are

investing. These three commissioning agencies are Te Pou Matakana (for whānau in Te Ika-a-Maui), Te Pūtahitanga (for whānau in Te Waipounamu), and Pasifika Futures (for Pasifika families across New Zealand).

I have enclosed the following 8 documents regarding the transfer of funding and programmes from the Ministry to Whānau Ora:

1. *Options for transferring programmes to Whānau Ora*, dated 24 April 2015
2. *Assigning responsibility for funding in Vote Social Development to the Minister for Whānau Ora*, dated 6 May 2015
3. *Transfer of Programmes and Funding to Whānau ora*, dated 6 August 2015
4. *Options for Transfer of Ministry of Social Development funding and/or programmes*, dated 8 October 2015
5. *Transfer of Vote Social Development Funding to Support Whānau Ora: Implementation and Next Steps*, dated 29 January 2016
6. *Whānau Ora: an update on the Ministry of Social Development's contribution*, dated 9 February 2016
7. *Transfer of contracts and funding to Support Whānau Ora*, dated 18 March 2016
8. *Transfer of Vote Social Development Funding to Support Whānau Ora: Progressing Transfer of Second Tranche Funding and Contacts*, dated 13 April 2016

You will note that some information is withheld under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Official Information Act as it is under active consideration. The release of this information is likely to prejudice the quality of information received and the wider public interest of effective government would not be served.

You will note that the names of some individuals are withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act in order to protect the privacy of natural persons. The need to protect the privacy of these individuals outweighs any public interest in this information.

Some information is withheld under section 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act to protect the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions. I believe the greater public interest is in the ability of individuals to express opinions in the course of their duty.

The Aide Memoir titled *Meeting with Minister Flavell*, dated 20 October 2015 is withheld in full under section 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act to protect the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions. I believe the greater public interest is in the ability of individuals to express opinions in the course of their duty.

I hope you find this information concerning the decision to transfer programmes to Whanau Ora helpful. You have the right to seek an investigation and review of my response by the Ombudsman, whose address for contact purposes is:

The Ombudsman  
Office of the Ombudsman  
PO Box 10-152  
WELLINGTON 6143

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bryan Wilson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Bryan Wilson  
**Associate Deputy Chief Executive  
Community Investment**