



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT**

TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

11 JAN 2017

Privacy of another: section 9(2)(a)

Dear Privacy of another: section 9(2)(a)

On 5 December 2016 you emailed the Ministry requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

- *The total funding provided by your Ministry to the Family Planning Association and to Rainbow Youth for their contribution to the drafting of the school sexuality programme, "Inside Out"?*
- *The estimated number of schools in New Zealand that have rejected the sexuality programme, "Inside Out"?*
- *As it is the intention of your Ministry to address the issue of bullying in schools, why has your Ministry drafted the programme "Inside Out" that does not include the other causes of bullying in schools?*
- *As parents are the first educators of their children, why has your Ministry not consulted with Parent Teacher Associations and taken advice on the drafting of this very controversial sexuality programme?*
- *Prior to the drafting of this programme, had the Ministry received submissions from parents and teacher groups calling for this programme?*

The Inside Out resource was launched in September 2015 and consists of video clips, supported by teaching resources, website and training workshops for users. The resource is designed for use in classrooms to increase understanding of, and support, for gender and sexual diversity. It is also suitable for use in community forums for young people. The resource challenges unhelpful social norms and encourages critical thinking to foster an environment where all young people belong. More information about the Inside Out resource can be found online at: www.Inside_Out.ry.org.nz/?gclid=Cj0KEQIAj8uyBRDawI3_XhYqOy4gBEiQAI8BjBZ-SqUNVzavtXqKaC94OZykoltJfAoja391gk6YbrAaAq818P8HAQ

The answers to your questions are addressed in turn.

- *The total funding provided by your Ministry to the Family Planning Association and to Rainbow Youth for their contribution to the drafting of the school sexuality programme, "Inside Out"?*

The table below shows the breakdown of funding by the Ministry, and dollar value, for the Inside Out resource.

Table One: Breakdown of funding by the Ministry, and dollar value, for the Inside Out resource.

Funding allocation	Dollar Value
Resource development	\$131,500
On-line portal	\$12,500
Launches	\$15,000
Media relations	\$5,000
Training	\$56,000
Evaluation	\$80,000
Total	\$300,000

Inside Out was funded through Te Punanga Haumarū, a community grant scheme for the prevention of bullying, administered by the Ministry. Recommendations for funding were made by an independent panel who assessed the applications. Te Punanga Haumarū has since been discontinued and the funding was transferred to support the Community Investment Strategy through Whānau Ora.

Rainbow Youth is a charity that supports sexuality and gender diverse youth in Aotearoa, New Zealand. Rainbow Youth is working in partnership with local organisations to provide training to ensure safe use of the Inside Out resource and increase local capability and ownership. Further information about Rainbow Youth can be found online at: www.ry.org.nz/

- *The estimated number of schools in New Zealand that have rejected the sexuality programme, "Inside Out"?*

The use of the Inside Out resource is at the discretion of the schools, along with their communities, to decide how sexuality education is delivered to students. The Ministry of Social Development and the Ministry of Education do not collect data on the number of resources self-managing schools choose to use.

As such, your request for the estimated number of schools that have 'rejected' Inside Out is refused under section 18(g) of the Official Information Act as the information you have requested is not held by the Ministry and there are no grounds to believe that the information is held by another department or Minister of the Crown or organisation.

- *As it is the intention of your Ministry to address the issue of bullying in schools, why has your Ministry drafted the programme "Inside Out" that does not include the other causes of bullying in schools?*

Inside Out was designed to support objectives of the New Zealand curriculum, including the health curriculum, and help schools respond to the new Sexuality Education Guidelines released by the Ministry of Education in May 2015.

More information about the Sexuality Guidelines can be found online at: www.health.tki.org.nz/Teaching-in-HPE/Policy-guidelines/Sexuality-education-a-guide-for-principals-boards-of-trustees-and-teachers

The nationwide 2007 and 2012 Youth Surveys of secondary school students showed transgender students are 4.5 times more likely to suffer weekly bullying than their non-transgender peers.

Tu Punanga Haumarū funded Inside Out, and additionally funded over 100 other community projects, many that included resources that were used in local schools for a range of children and young people that suffer bullying for other reasons outside of identifying as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and questioning (LGBTIQ).

- *As parents are the first educators of their children, why has your Ministry not consulted with Parent Teacher Associations and taken advice on the drafting of this very controversial sexuality programme?*

Parent Teacher Associations were not consulted as the Inside Out resource was produced using a grant to a community group or organisation. Consultation did take place and focussed on individuals or groups who could help construct and advise on the content that was to be included in the teaching resource. Educators, people who worked with schools, youth workers, families, and young people themselves were consulted.

- *Prior to the drafting of this programme, had the Ministry received submissions from parents and teacher groups calling for this programme?*

The Ministry did not receive submissions from parents and teacher groups for the Inside Out resource. The need for additional guidance for schools on bullying prevention was highlighted at the 2013 Secondary Principals' Association (SPANZ) symposium. Following this symposium, the then Secretary for Education, Peter Hughes, established the Bullying Prevention Advisory Group (BPAG) to begin cross-sector work to address bullying in New Zealand schools. BPAG is a collaboration of 18 organisations, with representatives from the education, health, justice and social sectors, as well as internet safety and human rights advocacy groups.

In 2014 all schools received a copy of BPAG's Bullying Prevention and Response: A Guide for Schools (the Guide), which provided guidance to assist schools in meeting the National Administration Guideline 5 (NAG 5) requirement for a safe physical and emotional school environment. The Guide also presented a clear and comprehensive definition of bullying.

Further information was added to the 2015 edition of the Guide, including a new section on bullying in relation to LGBTIQ students. This amendment highlighted the need for a resource like that of Inside Out.

The principles and purposes of the Official Information Act 1982 under which you made your request are:

- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter available to the wider public after ten working days. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter on the Ministry of Social Development's website. Your personal details will be deleted and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

If you wish to discuss this response about the Inside Out resource, funding and why the resource was drafted with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Roberts', with a large, sweeping flourish above the name.

Maree Roberts
Associate Deputy Chief Executive, Community Investment