



16 August 2023

Tēnā koe

On 19 July 2023, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *Any analyses, evaluations or assessments the Ministry of Social Development has produced or received regarding Te Aorerekura, National Strategy to Eliminate Family Violence and Sexual Violence during the past 16 months.*

This is not a request for staff names or any other personal information nor is it a request about other Government departments involved in Te Aorerekura.

From 1 July 2022, the Joint Venture (JV) formally became Te Puna Aonui, an Interdepartmental Executive Board (IEB) with collective responsibility for a whole-of-government work programme, as well as the overall shared outcomes for family violence and sexual violence. The Ministry is one of the ten agencies that make up Te Puna Aonui.

The whole-of-government work programme is underpinned by Te Aorerekura – the National Strategy to Eliminate Family Violence and Sexual Violence which was launched on 7 December 2021. Te Aorerekura has a 25-year focus, while the accompanying Action Plan has a two-year focus (December 2021 – December 2023).

While the Ministry is an active member of Te Puna Aonui, any analysis, evaluation, or assessment of Te Aorerekura, as the overarching strategy aimed at eliminating family violence and sexual violence, would be undertaken by Te Puna Aonui Business Unit (the Business Unit). The Business Unit is responsible for leading and coordinating specific elements of the work programme that sits across Te Puna Aonui (rather than those aspects that are being led by a specific Te Puna Aonui member agency). This includes the development of an Outcomes and Measurement Framework, which will track

progress using indicators and outcome measures consistent with the shifts that Te Aorerekura is seeking to achieve.

The Ministry has not produced nor received any analysis, evaluations, or assessment regarding Te Aorerekura during the last 16 months. As such, your request is refused under section 18(g)(i) of the Act on the basis that this information is not held by the Ministry and I have no grounds to believe that any analysis, evaluations or assessments produced or received by the Ministry would be held by any other department, Minister of the Crown or organisation.

You may instead find the Auditor-General's recent performance report of Te Puna Aonui as a Joint Venture to be of interest, which is publicly available here: oag.parliament.nz/2023/family-violence.

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 and any attached documents available to the wider public. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter on the Ministry'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 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.

Ngā mihi nui



Mark Henderson
General Manager
Safe Strong Families and Communities