

15 July 2019

Reference: OIA 2019-110

Matthew Whitehead

fyi-request-10543-bdf71684@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Matthew

Request for information under the Official Information Act

Thank you for your Official Information Act (OIA) request received by Capital & Coast District Health Board (CCDHB) on 17 June 2019 relating to any DHB protocols that assist Oranga Tamariki to uplift newborn babies.

Your requested information is set out below with our response.

Question 1

What protocols, if any, you have as to how DHB employees should respond to requests from Oranga Tamariki to uplift newborn babies.

CCDHB staff are required to comply with New Zealand legislation as detailed in the Children, Young Person's and their Families Act (1989). There is no single policy explicit to Oranga Tamariki uplifts of newborn babies.

Question 2

If there are such protocols, could you please provide a copy, and explain:

a. What their purposes are if not stated.

Not applicable

b. Who was involved in formulating those protocols, whether any expert advice was provided, and if so what the purpose of seeking such advice was, if not stated.

Not applicable

c. When these protocols were last reviewed, and are there any plans for a review based on the events that have recently been covered in the media regarding the Oranga Tamariki uplift incident in Hawkes Bay? (covered by Newsroom.co.nz, if reference is required)

CCDHB in February 2019 commenced development of a policy specific to the uplift of newborn babies by Oranga Tamariki. Prior to events covered in Newsroom.co.nz we engaged with the Oranga Tamariki Chief Social Workers Office for policy, practice and legislative information and a number of other DHBs to obtain their Pae Manaaki/ Uplift policies.

In finalising this policy CCDHB will consult with national agencies and incorporate relevant information from the reviews currently being conducted through these agencies that relate to Oranga Tamariki uplifts of newborn babies.

This response has been provided under the Official Information Act 1982. I trust this information meets your needs but please contact me should you require any further information.

You have the right to request an investigation and review in accordance with section 28(3) Official Information Act by complaint being made to an Ombudsman in writing or orally.

Yours sincerely



Justine Plunkett
Interim Executive Director Operations
Surgery, Women & Children's Directorate

Released under the Official Information Act