

15 FEB 2021

Zane Collins
fyi-request-14400-cadafa5c@requests.fyi.org.nz

Our ref: OIA 85265

Dear Mr Collins

Official Information Act request: Costs associated with family justice reforms, studies and research

Thank you for your email of 5 January 2021 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), information regarding costs associated with family justice reforms, studies and research. I have outlined your requests and my response to each below:

*I would like to know the total costs of conducting the following events after year 2015;
- Without Notice Applications in the Family Court: Research Report - July 2017*

I can confirm that the final cost in relation to the *Without Notice Applications in the Family Court: Research Report- July 2017* was \$115,632.50.

- Parenting Arrangements after Separation Study (PASS): Evaluating the 2014 New Zealand Family Law Reforms - through Otago university

The Ministry of Justice was not involved in the commissioning or funding of the *Parenting Arrangements after Separation Study*. I must therefore refuse this part of your request under section 18(g) of the Act as the information requested is not held by the Ministry and I have no grounds for believing it is held by another agency or Minister. This work was funded by the New Zealand Law Foundation so you may want to get in touch with them.

- The Independent Panel which examined the 2014 family justice reforms and their finding report was published in May 2019

The total cost of the Independent Panel's report *Te Korowai Ture ā-Whānau*, was \$1.2m.

And any other researches or studies conducted in the areas of family justice contexts such as separation and divorce, care and protection, out-of-home care, supervised contact and relocation

I have identified one report that falls within scope of the last part of your request. It is titled *Evaluation of Family Dispute Resolution Service and Mandatory Self-representation*. The total cost of this report was \$80,000.

If you are not satisfied with my response, you have the right to complain to the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Act. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke, followed by a period.

Jenna Bottcher
Manager – Ministerial Relations and Services