

1 March 2024

M Cook
fyi-request-25152-2e1336b6@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe M Cook

Thank you for your email of 12 December 2023 to Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children (Oranga Tamariki), requesting information around reports and reviews following a death or abuse of children known to Oranga Tamariki. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

You have requested:

Please provide me with a list of reports or reviews written as a consequence of the death or abuse of a specific child or children known to Oranga Tamariki and its predecessor agencies from 1980 to the present day.

On 22 January, you clarified your request as:

...reports and reviews that were publicly released resulting from death or serious abuse' rather than 'reports and reviews related to the death or abuse'. Reducing the time period would be possible if you let me know to which date records have been deposited with Archives New Zealand (ANZ). Have, for example, all records up to 2000 been deposited? If you would please send me that information I will adjust my request accordingly.

Oranga Tamariki strives to ensure that no child or young person we are involved with is harmed or injured. The death of any child or young person is a tragedy and, where a child or young person dies, Oranga Tamariki are dedicated to understanding what can be done to prevent it happening again.

In 2023, Oranga Tamariki enhanced the range of processes that are triggered when a serious event or issue occurs. The changes were designed to better respond to the needs of each circumstance, to support better decisions and accountability for serious events, and help ensure issues identified were addressed.

Following the death or serious abuse of a child, staff will complete a Serious Event Notification (SEN) to inform our National Office of the circumstances. More information can be located [here](#).

The Office of the Chief Social Worker may also undertake a Practice Review if assessed as necessary, or if requested by the Oranga Tamariki Chief Executive.

We have interpreted your request as being for reports and reviews that have been publicly released since the formation of Oranga Tamariki. In this instance your request has been declined under 18(d) of the Act, in that the information you have requested is already publicly available. The practice review undertaken by Oranga Tamariki following the death of Malachi Subecz can be found [here](#), and the review undertaken for 'Infant B' [here](#). These are only reviews following the death of a child that Oranga Tamariki has published since establishment in 2017.

Oranga Tamariki has not transferred any records to Archives New Zealand. However, historic records that we are the controlling agency for have been transferred by predecessor agencies.

Oranga Tamariki may make the information contained in this letter available to the public by publishing this letter on our website with your personal details removed.

I trust you find this information useful. Should you have any concerns with this response, I would encourage you to raise them with Oranga Tamariki. Alternatively, you are advised of your right to also raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. Information about this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by contacting them on 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā



Peter Whitcombe
Chief Social Worker