

Good screening is only one of the many ways you can help ensure that the children who are involved with your organisation are safe. We also recommend that you consider how your organisation can create a safe environment for children and young persons, for example by using such resources as **Is that Child OK?** (see link below) to ensure you have good processes for handling allegations of abuse:

[Is that child OK? | Ministry of Health NZ](#)

Guidelines to determining a vetting result

The information recorded in CYRAS can be subjective. It is the responsibility of the NGOCVS to ensure that **only information relevant to the role** is detailed in an applicant(s) result. The information provided must be factual where information of concern is identified that is relevant to the role. Where that information cannot be validated, such information will be marked accordingly. Refer to the following sample examples provided.

The NGOCVS must highlight where risk may be evident and report that information to the requesting NGO provider. It is then the NGO provider's responsibility to conduct a risk assessment and evaluation considering all the information gathered from the other safety checks.

The NGOCVS are required to consider a large volume of complex data from CYRAS, both fact and opinion. Any information provided to the NGO must always be directly related and proportional to the position the applicant is being considered for on behalf of the NGO.

Generalised considerations (where judgment must be applied)

Where no concerns are identified:

- Unsubstantiated allegations, unless multiple events identified
- One off events or allegations, unless recent or of a serious nature
- Minor domestic incidents (verbal), unless multiple events identified

Where concerns may exist, or information of concern is found:

- Substantiated abuse towards a child/young person following an Oranga Tamariki investigation
- Criminal conviction(s) against children and/or others
- Offences against the Misuse of Drugs Act 1975 and the Crimes Act 1961

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- Pending Police charges
- Specified offences as detailed in Schedule 2 of the Children's Act 2014
- Serving a term of imprisonment, a period of corrective training, a suspended sentence of imprisonment, or a home detention sentence
- Convictions under the Land Transport Act 1998
- A community-based sentence, including community detention, supervision or intensive supervision
- An Oranga Tamariki based supervision requirement

Other considerations:

- Known family harm occurrences, intelligence noting's and comments as provided by New Zealand Police and as recorded in CYRAS.
- Level of activity and nature of any known event
- The applicant's role in the event
- Whether the nature or frequency of offending indicates any specific or general risk to a child or young person or other vulnerable person(s)
- Whether the person who offended was in a relationship of trust and confidence with the victim
- Whether children/young people were a victim, witness or present during any event
- Any treatment undertaken and assessment of successful rehabilitation of the candidate
- The severity of any incident
- The time of offending – period since the offence occurred, whether any further offending occurred, whether behavioral change has occurred in the interim
- The frequency – number of incidents and other offences committed
- Information provided by professionals either directly or indirectly (specialist involvement assessments, etc.), for example, where mental health services may be involved in applicant's care