



13 November 2024

Ms Grange

fyi-request-28774-9f73cd34@requests.fyi.org.nz

Official information request

Our ref: R00579

Tēnā koe Ms Grange

I refer to your request made under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) received on 16 October 2024. You requested:

- *All formal (whether oral or written) submissions to the ECE Regulatory Review from kindergarten associations.*
- *All correspondence from kindergarten associations to the Minister or Ministry personnel relating to this ECE Regulatory Review.*
- *Any internal or external memos, diary notes, or the like, between the Minister and/or Ministry personnel relating to kindergartens, kindergarten associations in relation to this ECE Regulatory Review*

In regards to the first part of your request:

- *All formal (whether oral or written) submissions to the ECE Regulatory Review from kindergarten associations.*

The Ministry for Regulation (the Ministry) is withholding all individual submissions received for the Early childhood education regulatory review (the Review) under section 9(2)(ba)(i) of the OIA, as the information in the submissions was provided under an obligation of confidence.

In accordance with section 16(1)(e) of the OIA, the Ministry has decided to release the information contained in the submissions in a summarised format. The Ministry has recently released two reports on the Review which summarise all feedback and information provided through our engagement hub. You can find copies of these reports at regulation.govt.nz/mfr-what-we-do/corporate-publications.

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the OIA and concluded that the public interest in disclosure does not outweigh the need to withhold the information.

In regards to the second and third parts of your request:

- *All correspondence from kindergarten associations to the Minister or Ministry personnel relating to this ECE Regulatory Review.*

- *Any internal or external memos, diary notes, or the like, between the Minister and/or Ministry personnel relating to kindergartens, kindergarten associations in relation to this ECE Regulatory Review*

I am also writing to notify you of an extension of the time to make our decision, to **18 December 2024**. This extension is necessary because your request necessitates a search through a large quantity of information and meeting the original time limit would unreasonably interfere with our operations. Additionally, consultations necessary to make a decision on the request are such that a proper response to the request cannot reasonably be made within the original time limit.

Partial transfer of request

In addition to this extension, part of the information to which your request relates is not held by the Ministry for Regulation but is believed to be held by Minister Seymour's office. In these circumstances, we are required by section 14 of the OIA to transfer your request. I am therefore partially transferring the second and third parts of your request to Minister Seymour's office. Minister Seymour's office will contact you regarding these parts of your request. The Ministry will also respond to these parts of your request on the information it holds no later than **18 December 2024**.

Right of review

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please contact hello@regulation.govt.nz.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi



Aisling Risdon
Head of Ministerial Services
Ministry for Regulation