

OIA-CE-2024-02694

4 December 2024

Bruce

fyi-request-29242-2e0c44b5@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Bruce

Thank you for your email, received on 18 November 2024, to Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children (Oranga Tamariki) requesting information on Anusha Bradley’s interview request concerning the October report by the Chief Ombudsman. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

You have requested:

- *I request all information regarding a request for an interview by RNZ reporter Anusha Bradley concerning the October report by the Chief Ombudsman.*

For context, please note that the reporter has since amended the article linked in your request, published Monday 18 November 2024, noting the following:

“An earlier version of this story said Oranga Tamariki refused an interview request about comments from the Chief Ombudsman. Oranga Tamariki was asked for comment on this story, but not an interview, and supplied a written statement. The ministry did agree to a more general interview, which took place after this story was published.”

On Thursday 31 October 2024, the reporter approached Oranga Tamariki asking for a response to comments made by the Ombudsman but did not explicitly ask for the response to be via an interview. As such, a written response was provided on Friday 1 November 2024.

Following this, on Thursday 7 November 2024, the reporter responded with an email titled “Interview pitch”, requesting an interview with the Oranga Tamariki Chief Executive.

Oranga Tamariki responded on Friday 8 November 2024, noting that the Chief Social Worker would be available for an interview but that the following week was heavily booked, requesting that a later date be considered. The reporter agreed to this and, on Wednesday 13 November 2024, arrangements were confirmed to hold the interview on Tuesday 19 November 2024.

The interview was then conducted at 1pm on Tuesday 19 November 2024.

IN-CONFIDENCE

Oranga Tamariki may make the information contained in this letter available to the public by publishing this 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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Jane Fletcher', with a stylized, flowing script.

Jane Fletcher
General Manager
Office of the Chief Executive