



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT**

TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

**17 DEC 2015**

Mr Robert Newcombe  
[fyi-request-3429-32142677@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-3429-32142677@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Mr Newcombe

On 30 November 2015 you emailed the Ministry requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

- *I would therefore like to know who authorized the production and contents of the document titled 'ARNESSEN COMMUNICATION – NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT RESPONSE- HRC', was it a Minister and if so whom, was it the CEO of the MSD and if it was neither who was it?*

The Government of New Zealand was asked by the United Nations Human Rights Council (the Council) to provide a Government response to a complaint made to the Council about the application of Section 70 of the Social Security Act 1964.

The Government's response was signed out and as such authorised by the Minister for Social Development, Hon Anne Tolley in her capacity as the Minister responsible for the administration of New Zealand social security legislation.

I hope you find this information helpful. You have the right to seek an investigation and review of my response by the Ombudsman, whose address for contact purposes is:

The Ombudsman  
Office of the Ombudsman  
PO Box 10-152  
WELLINGTON 6143

Yours sincerely

Sacha O'Dea  
**General Manager, Aging, Disability and International**