

30 April 2026

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Ref: OIA 131576

Tēnā koe Lance

Official Information Act request: Policy response to Supreme Court judgment

Thank you for your email of 3 April 2026, requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) information regarding the Supreme Court judgment in *G (SC 130/2024) v R [2026] NZSC 19*, delivered on 24 March 2026. Specifically, you requested:

*I request the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 in relation to the Supreme Court judgment in *G (SC 130/2024) v R [2026] NZSC 19*, delivered on 24 March 2026.*

The date range for all requests is 4 April 2025 (the date the Supreme Court granted leave to appeal) to the date this request is processed. I request the following.

- 1. All ministerial briefings prepared by the Ministry of Justice for the Minister of Justice or the Associate Minister of Justice that reference *G (SC 130/2024) v R [2026] NZSC 19* or the sentencing of aged-out youth offenders under the Sentencing Act 2002.*
- 2. All correspondence between the Ministry of Justice and the Crown Law Office, the Parliamentary Counsel Office, the Ministry for Children | Oranga Tamariki, the Department of Corrections, or the New Zealand Police regarding *G (SC 130/2024) v R [2026] NZSC 19* or any legislative or policy response to that decision.*
- 3. All internal policy papers, options papers, discussion documents, or scoping papers prepared by or for the Ministry of Justice assessing the implications of *G (SC 130/2024) v R [2026] NZSC 19* for sentencing practice, including any assessment of the decision's interaction with sections 9B–9F of the Sentencing Act 2002.*
- 4. Any drafting instructions or correspondence with the Parliamentary Counsel Office regarding proposed amendments to the Sentencing Act 2002, the Oranga Tamariki Act 1989, or the Crimes Act 1961 in response to *G (SC 130/2024) v R [2026] NZSC 19*.*

In response to your request, please refer to **Table 1** below, for a list of documents in scope of your request and my decision on their release to you. The corresponding information being released is attached to this response as **Appendix 1**.

Out of scope information has been removed and some information has been withheld under the following provisions of the Act:

- section 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons, and
- section 9(2)(h) to maintain legal professional privilege.

In withholding information under section 9 of the Act, the Ministry has considered the public interest and does not consider that it outweighs withholding the information at this time.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry's website at: [Official Information Act responses | New Zealand Ministry of Justice](#).

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman under section 28 of the Act. The Office of the Ombudsman may be contacted by phone on: 0800 802 602, by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz, or via the webform: [Make a complaint \(for members of the public\) | Ombudsman New Zealand](#).

Nāku noa, nā



Alida Mercuri

General Manager, Criminal Justice Policy

Table 1: Documents in scope of request

Doc no.	Date	Document type	Title	Decision on release under the Act
1.	20/03/2026	Email chain	SC 130/2024 G v R	Out of scope information removed and some information withheld under s9(2)(a)
1.1	07/04/2026	Aide-memoire	G v R (Youth Justice Principles)	Withheld in full under s9(2)(h)