



MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Te Manatū Whakahiato Ora

Ministry of Social Development, Bowen State Building, Bowen Street, Wellington 6011, PO Box 1556, Wellington 6140
• Telephone: 0-4-916 3300 • Facsimile: 0-4-918 0099

- 5 JUL 2012

Alex Harris
fyi-request-346-8140c3e4@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Alex Harris

Thank you for your emails of 7 June 2012 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following:

"How many submissions to the Reference Group suggested or advocated for a policy preventing abusive parents from having children?"

Has the Reference Group considered such a policy? If so, I would like all advice, discussion documents, and papers on the policy

If such a policy was suggested or considered, has the Minister been informed of it?" and

"This week, Social Development minister Paula Bennett told Radio NZ that the government was "considering a range of options to deal with the issue of known child abusers or killers having further children - including allowing the Court to direct someone convicted of serious child abuse or neglect or murder not to have more children" ("Govt: Abusers could have children taken away at birth", NZ Herald, 6 Jun 2012). I would like to request the following information under the Official Information Act 1982: all advice on this policy."

This letter is to advise you that I need to extend the time available to answer your request. The Ministry's response will be with you no later than 20 July 2012. I will respond to you sooner if I am able to.

The reason for the extension is that the Ministry needs further time to consult with other parties on the release of the information you have requested. These other parties may be affected by the release of the information and I need to provide them with an opportunity to identify any prejudice that might arise from its release before I make a final decision.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of our decision to extend the time by the Ombudsman, whose address for contact purposes is:

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

Yours sincerely

Brendan Boyle
Chief Executive

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