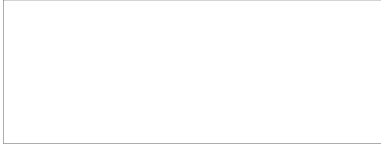




**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT**

TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

29 NOV 2016



On 20 September 2016, you emailed the Ministry requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

- *All correspondence, including memos, notes, email chains etc, between the Ministry of Social Development and Iosis regarding the closure of Iosis' Merivale Residential Programme in Auckland due to the discovery of asbestos.*

The Ministry can advise that the Merivale Residential Programme did not close but was temporarily relocated due to the discovery of asbestos in the site where the programme was being held. The staff ensured that the safety of the families was paramount and they were relocated promptly.

As the Merivale Residential Programme did not close, this part of your request is refused under section 18(e) of the Official Information Act, as the information does not exist.

You will find enclosed a number of emails which provide information about the relocation to another premises following the discovery of asbestos. You will note that some information is withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act in order to protect the privacy of natural persons. The need to protect the privacy of these individuals outweighs any public interest in this information.

The principles and purposes of the Official Information Act 1982 under which you made your request are:

- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter and any attached documents available to the wider public after ten working days. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter on the Ministry of Social Development's website. Your personal details will be deleted and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

Page 1 of 2

If you wish to discuss this response regarding the Merivale Residential programme with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Murray Edridge', written in a cursive style.

Murray Edridge
Deputy Chief Executive, Child, Youth and Family

s 9(2)(a) OIA Privacy of Natural Persons

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 7 July 2015 12:37 p.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Subject: FW: Health and Safety situation at Merivale

Importance: High

Another one for Iosis – Reports - Incident Reporting – Merivale – Asbestos. Thanks

From: Tracey-Leigh Peters 9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 6 July 2015 1:02 p.m.
To: Strategic_Relationships_Team_NRO (CYF)
Cc: 9(2)(a)
Subject: Health and Safety situation at Merivale
Importance: High

Talofa lava,

I am writing to update you on a health and safety situation at our Merivale site in Mangere.

We have recently been managing an asbestos issue and taking all necessary precautions to ensure the health and safety of our staff and families who are on site.

Last week we were informed that the situation is worse than first expected and we are needing to vacate the site as soon as possible so that the asbestos can be removed.

Currently we have 12 mums and 20 children living on site. 10 of these mums were CYF referred. We are looking to move our service to our Awhimai site which is located on Mt Smart Road in Onehunga. This site is owned by HNZ and we have managed it for a number of years.

I am at Merivale as I write this and we are formulating a plan to move the service on Saturday. If there is any further information that you require please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards
Tracey

Tracey-Leigh Peters
Acting CEO

9(2)(a)

W: www.iosis.org.nz

112c Russell Road, Manurewa, Auckland
PO Box 98840, Manukau City, 2241

s 9(2)(a) OIA Privacy of Natural Persons

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 7 July 2015 12:36 p.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Subject: FW: Iosis - Merivale

Can you save this into Iosis Incidents please? Can you name is Merivale – Asbestos with date?

Thanks.

From: Strategic_Relationships_Team_NRO (CYF)
Sent: Monday, 6 July 2015 2:19 p.m.
To: 9(2)(a) Strategic_Relationships_Team_NRO (CYF); 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Iosis - Merivale

Hi 9(2)(a)

Thank you for the heads up. I phoned Tracey-Leigh after receiving her e-mail and she has agreed to send me the names of all CYF referred mothers and children currently placed at Merivale.

She is also going to send me more details about their relocation plan to Awhimai site and I will forward this to the allocated social workers to keep them informed.

Thanks,

9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)

Advisor

*Strategic Relationship Team
Northern Regional Office
Child Youth and Family*

9(2)(a)

0508 FAMILY (326 459)

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 6 July 2015 12:38 p.m.
To: 9(2)(a) Strategic_Relationships_Team_NRO (CYF); 9(2)(a)
Subject: Iosis - Merivale
Importance: High

Hello

A heads up that I just received a call from Tracey-Leigh Roberts – Acting CEO for Iosis, advising that they have a crisis at Merivale. From my understanding they previously advised of an asbestos issue at Merivale, however were managing it and hopeful of moving out in the near future. However from what Tracey says they have had some recent testing and have decided to move the families from Merivale by Saturday.

I've asked Tracey to send an email within the hour of what the situation is as well as advising us how many families are CYF referred. She is heading to Merivale and will confirm these details. They are planning to move the 10 families to a property in Onehunga. Sorry I can't recall if there were two properties, however

one has 6 bedrooms. I advised her that Approvals need to be advised as well, so she will include you in the email as well 9(2)(a)

Happy to meet once the email comes through if there is anything from our end that we need to follow up.

Thank you. 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a) OIA Privacy of Natural Persons

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 8 July 2015 9:16 p.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Subject: FW: Merivale

Can you please save this into the Iosis Reporting Incidents – might need to group all the Merivale emails together please.

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 7 July 2015 4:40 p.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Subject: FW: Merivale

From: Strategic_Relationships_Team_NRO (CYF)
Sent: Tuesday, 7 July 2015 3:19 p.m.
To: 9(2)(a) Strategic_Relationships_Team_NRO (CYF)
Cc: 9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Merivale

Hi 9(2)(a)

Thanks for talking with me about the 9(2)(a) children and the current situation at Merivale.

We are meeting with Merivale at 10:30am and I will inform you of the outcome after the meeting so you can make decisions for these children.

Thanks

9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)
Advisor

*Strategic Relationship Team
Northern Regional Office
Child Youth and Family*

9(2)(a)
0508 FAMILY (326 459)

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 7 July 2015 2:56 p.m.
To: Strategic_Relationships_Team_NRO (CYF)
Cc: 9(2)(a)
Subject: Merivale

Hi

We will move our 3 9(2)(a) children back to their caregiver tomorrow, if the outcome of your meeting at 10am is not satisfactory.

We would simply not have moved 3 vulnerable children (all under 5) from really good foster caregivers, yesterday, if we had known this were happening. We would rather put them back with their caregivers until Merivale have sorted out their issues. Will inform mum of this tomorrow.

Can it please be raised at your meeting, the fact that they didn't tell us there were problems, when we uprooted 3 children who were settled with their carers, and their mum without this information. It is really poor, I am disappointed, and will be rethinking the Merivale Programme, we will look at Grainger Grove for this family.

9(2)(a) [redacted] | Site Manager | Homai | Child Youth & Family | Ministry of Social Development
9(2)(a) [redacted]

Ma Matou Ma Tatou – Changing Young Lives

Child Youth and Family helps children
young people and families be

Safe, STRONG + Thrive

5
4

s 9(2)(a) OIA Privacy of Natural Persons

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Thursday, 9 July 2015 7:21 a.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Subject: FW: Current placements at Merivale
Attachments: Merivale current placements.docx

Another one. Ta

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 7 July 2015 5:05 p.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Cc: Strategic_Relationships_Team_NRO (CYF)
Subject: Current placements at Merivale

Kia ora koutou

I have put together the mothers and children that are currently at Merivale and the contact with the relevant sites so far.

Kind regards

9(2)(a)

Advisor

*Strategic Relationship Team
Northern Regional Office
Child Youth and Family*

9(2)(a)
0508 FAMILY (326 459)

s 9(2)(a) OIA Privacy of Natural Persons

s 9(2)(a) OIA Privacy of Natural Persons

s 9(2)(a) OIA Privacy of Natural Persons

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Thursday, 9 July 2015 7:16 a.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Subject: FW: Update on Merivale

For Iosis EDRMS file please. Thanks

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 8 July 2015 1:06 p.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Cc: 9(2)(a) Strategic_Relationships_Team_NRO (CYF);
Subject: Update on Merivale

Kia ora koutou

We have met with Merivale this morning who have confirmed they are relocating the Merivale programme to Parnell Boarding House at Kings College at 3pm today where they will run the programme until Wednesday 15 July 2015. Merivale have assessed the facilities at Kings College and are confident they adequately meet the needs of the programme. The programme will be continuing as usual despite the change of location – schooling, early childhood programme, medical services and the therapeutic programme for mothers will remain the same.

We are meeting with Merivale again on Monday 13 July to discuss the plan from 15 July 2015. Merivale continue to explore many options for relocating the programme following 15 July 2015. There is no belief that the programme will close given the current options Merivale is exploring.

Please feel welcome to call 9(2)(a) Manager of Merivale on 9(2)(a) if you would like any further information about the Merivale programme.

You are also welcome to call me to discuss this further.

Kind regards

9(2)(a)

Advisor

Strategic Relationship Team
Northern Regional Office
Child Youth and Family

9(2)(a)
0508 FAMILY (326 459)

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Friday, 10 July 2015 7:12 p.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Subject: Fwd: Meeting on Monday

Please note I'm not sending them in order. Sorry. Ta

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Strategic_Relationships_Team_NRO (CYF)"
<Strategic_Relationships_Team_NRO@cyf.govt.nz>
Date: 10 July 2015 3:26:01 pm NZST
To: 9(2)(a)
9(2)(a)
Cc: "Strategic_Relationships_Team_NRO (CYF)" <Strategic_Relationships_Team_NRO@cyf.govt.nz>
Subject: FW: Meeting on Monday

Hello

I just phoned Tracey who confirmed they are moving to Awhimai on Thursday, they have not managed to get their tenant to move out of their main house but will move into the units on the property and arranging for extra units to be hired and moved onto the property to accommodate everyone. They will be able to continue to run their programme as normal in this location.

I plan to send an update e-mail to the Site Managers with mothers and children in the programme so they are aware.

Given they have found a solution and are able to continue the programme we (strategic relationship team) don't feel we need to meet with Merivale on Monday.

Does your team still need to meet with Merivale on Monday?

Kind regards

9(2)(a)

Advisor

*Strategic Relationship Team
Northern Regional Office
Child Youth and Family*

9(2)(a)
0508 FAMILY (326 459)

From: Tracey-Leigh Peters [<mailto:Tracey-Leigh.Peters@iosis.org.nz>]
Sent: Friday, 10 July 2015 2:14 p.m.
To: Strategic_Relationships_Team_NRO (CYF)
Cc: 9(2)(a)

Subject: Meeting on Monday
Importance: High

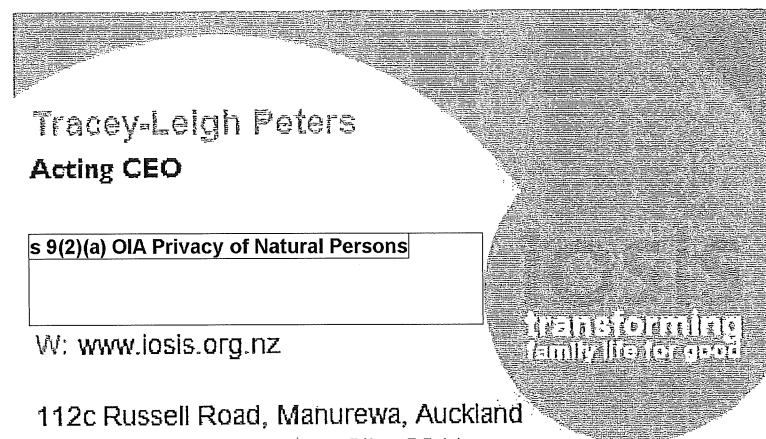
Kia ora,

Just to let you know that we are available to meet on Monday at 9:30am.

We can confirm that we will be at Kings College until Thursday 16 July when we will move to Awhimai in Onehunga.

See you on Monday.

Thanks
Tracey



Tracey-Leigh Peters
Acting CEO

s 9(2)(a) OIA Privacy of Natural Persons

W: www.losis.org.nz

112c Russell Road, Manurewa, Auckland
PO Box 98840, Manukau City, 2241

transforming
family life for good

s 9(2)(a) OIA Privacy of Natural Persons

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Friday, 10 July 2015 7:11 p.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Subject: Fwd: Merivale meeting on Monday

Another one for Merivale please

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: 9(2)(a)
Date: 10 July 2015 5:36:59 pm NZST
To: 9(2)(a), "Tracey-Leigh Peters 9(2)(a)
9(2)(a) 9(2)(a)
9(2)(a)
Cc: "Strategic_Relationships_Team_NRO (CYF)" <Strategic_Relationships_Team_NRO@cyf.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Merivale meeting on Monday

Excellent news. Well done Tracey-Leigh.

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Friday, 10 July 2015 4:44 p.m.
To: Tracey-Leigh Peters (Tracey-Leigh.Peters@iosis.org.nz); 9(2)(a)
9(2)(a)
Cc: Strategic_Relationships_Team_NRO (CYF)
Subject: Merivale meeting on Monday

Hello

I have spoken to Tracey-Leigh and e-mailed 9(2)(a) separately.

Given a solution to Merivale's accommodation has been found we (operations) no longer need to meet with Merivale on Monday (given the programme is able to be delivered as usual). I have e-mailed relevant sites to update them on the plan to move to Awhimai on Thursday.

If approvals or CI still need to meet with Merivale could you contact Tracey-Leigh directly.

Great news Tracey-Leigh that you managed to find a solution to enable the programme to continue.

Thank you for your help.

Kind regards

9(2)(a)

Advisor

*Strategic Relationship Team
Northern Regional Office
Child Youth and Family*

9(2)(a)

0508 FAMILY (326 459)

From: 9(2)(a)
Sent: Friday, 10 July 2015 7:11 p.m.
To: 9(2)(a)
Subject: Fwd: Update on Merivale

Merivale folder please. Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: 9(2)(a)
Date: 10 July 2015 4:29:32 pm NZST
To: 9(2)(a)
9(2)(a)
Cc: 9(2)(a)
9(2)(a)
9(2)(a) "Strategic_Relationships_Team_NRO (CYF)"
<Strategic_Relationships_Team_NRO@cyf.govt.nz>, 9(2)(a)
9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Update on Merivale

Kia ora koutou

Merivale have confirmed today they have arranged to stay at Kings College until Thursday 16 July and then will relocate to their Awhimai facility in Onehunga which is an approved venue.

Merivale will continue to provide their programme as usual.

Please feel welcome to call 9(2)(a) Manager of Merivale on 9(2)(a) if you would like any further information about the Merivale programme.

You are also welcome to call me to discuss this further.

Kind regards

9(2)(a)

Advisor

*Strategic Relationship Team
Northern Regional Office
Child Youth and Family*

9(2)(a)
0508 FAMILY (326 459)

From: s 9(2)(a) OIA Privacy of Natural Persons

Sent: Wednesday, 8 July 2015 1:06 p.m.

To: 9(2)(a)

Cc: 9(2)(a)

Strategic_Relationships_Team_NRO (CYF); 9(2)(a)

Subject: Update on Merivale

Kia ora koutou

We have met with Merivale this morning who have confirmed they are relocating the Merivale programme to Parnell Boarding House at Kings College at 3pm today where they will run the programme until Wednesday 15 July 2015. Merivale have assessed the facilities at Kings College and are confident they adequately meet the needs of the programme. The programme will be continuing as usual despite the change of location – schooling, early childhood programme, medical services and the therapeutic programme for mothers will remain the same.

We are meeting with Merivale again on Monday 13 July to discuss the plan from 15 July 2015. Merivale continue to explore many options for relocating the programme following 15 July 2015. There is no belief that the programme will close given the current options Merivale is exploring.

Please feel welcome to call 9(2)(a) Manager of Merivale on 9(2)(a) if you would like any further information about the Merivale programme.

You are also welcome to call me to discuss this further.

Kind regards

9(2)(a)

Advisor

*Strategic Relationship Team
Northern Regional Office
Child Youth and Family*

9(2)(a)
0508 FAMILY (326 459)