



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT**

TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

- 3 FEB 2017

Dear

On 1 December 2016 you emailed the Ministry requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, information regarding the number of children who were abused in care where facilities were run in collaboration with the Catholic Church or other religious institutions from 1940 to 1990.

Historically, where it was necessary for children and young people to be taken into state care, the significant majority were placed either in foster homes, family homes, residential care or the care of family or Whānau members. A small number of children may have been placed into homes run by churches or philanthropic organisations.

Various boys' and girls' homes were established and administered by the predecessor organisations of the Ministry, including the Child Welfare Division of the Department of Education, the Department of Social Welfare and the New Zealand Children and Young Persons Service. These institutions were administered exclusively by the state and with no assistance, management or in collaboration with any church or philanthropic organisation.

As noted above, various churches and philanthropic organisations also established and administered a variety of different homes. They were administered exclusively by the owning organisation. The sole involvement that the state had with such homes was the inspection and approval of them by the then equivalent of the Ministry under the relevant provisions of the legislation applicable at the time. As such, I am refusing your request under section 18(g) of the Official Information Act as the information you have requested is not held by the Ministry and I have no grounds to believe that the information is held by another department or Minister of the Crown or organisation.

Psychiatric hospitals and health camps on the other hand were administered by the Ministry of Health, while residential education institutions were administered by the Ministry of Education.

The enclosed table is a list of the residential institutions run by the Ministry's predecessors until circa 1990.

Where a person makes a claim that they were abused or otherwise harmed while in the care of the Ministry, then we are committed to resolve that claim wherever possible. Claims received to date cover many decades, all types of care arrangements and they allege abuse and neglect across the spectrum of severity.

Where there is the basis to do so, the claimant will receive a formal written apology from the Ministry's Chief Executive and a financial payment as acknowledgement of the harm they came to.

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.

If you wish to discuss this response regarding historic claims of abuse 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 'Carolyn Risk', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Carolyn Risk
Deputy Chief Executive, MSD Organisational Transformation

Name of Institution	Open or Closed as at 2016
Auckland Region	Closed
Allendale Girls Home aka Auckland Girls Home	
Bollard Girls Home	
Cornwall Park reception Centre	
Owairaka Boys Home aka Auckland Boys Home	
Richmond Girls Home	
Wesleydale	
Weymouth Girls Home aka Northern Residential Centre	
Hamilton Region	
Hamilton Boys Home aka Melville Boys Home	
Hamilton Receiving Home aka Tower Hill	
Hamilton Girls Home aka Dey Street Residence	
Hawkes Bay Region	
Beck House	
Wanganui Region	
Holdsworth Residential School	
Otamatea Children's Centre	
Levin Region	
Hokio Beach School	
Kohitere Boys Training Centre	
Palmerston North Region	
Palmerston North Girls Home aka Palmerston North Receiving Home aka Margaret Street Girls Home	
Wairarapa Region	
Arbor House aka Greytown Reception Centre	
Fareham House	
Wellington Region	
Austin Street Boys Home aka Wellington Boys Home	
Epuni Boys Home	
Miramar Girls Home aka Wellington Girls Home aka Wellington Receiving Home	
Anne Street Wellington Hostel for Girls	
Christchurch Region	
Burwood Training Centre aka Kingslea Girls Home aka Kingslea Residential Centre	
Christchurch Receiving Home aka Strathmore Girls Home	
Christchurch Boys Home aka Stanmore Road Boys Home	
Dunedin Region	
Dunedin Boys Home aka Lookout Point Boys Home	
Dunedin Girls Home aka Andersons Bay Girls Home aka Elliot Street Residence	