



16 October 2023

Tēnā koe

On 18 September 2023, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *Please supply details of the contract between the Growing Up in NZ project, the local authority and MSD.*
- *Please also provide the research requirements and staffing requirements.*

The Ministry has interpreted your request as asking for information held in the contract between Growing up in New Zealand and the Ministry regarding the key deliverables or research requirements. If this was not the intent of your request, please let us know and you are welcome to submit another, more specific request for information.

I have decided to grant part of your request, by way of excerpts from the Growing up in New Zealand contract with the Ministry of Social Development and subsequent variations of that contract, as provided for under section 16 (1)(e) of the Act. This has been done to ensure sufficient information is provided to address any transparency and accountability reasons favouring release of the information.

Please find in the enclosed Appendix an extract of the contract between Growing up in New Zealand and the Ministry of Social Development and relevant variations of that contract. This contains information on the research requirement or deliverables.

Regarding your request about staffing requirements, I am refusing this part of your request under section 18(g) of the Act, as the Ministry does not hold this information and I have no grounds to believe that the information is either held by or closely connected to the functions of another department, Minister of the Crown or organisation.

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. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter and attachment on the Ministry'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 with us, please feel free to contact [OIA\\_Requests@msd.govt.nz](mailto:OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz).

If you are not satisfied with this response regarding the details of the contract between Growing Up in New Zealand and the Ministry, 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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui



Paul Merwood  
**General Manager**  
**Research and Evaluation**

## **EXCERPT FROM 'Growing Up in New Zealand (GUiNZ)' Agreement and Variations of the Agreement**

### **Contract Summary**

The GUiNZ longitudinal study is conducted by the University of Auckland and managed by Auckland UniServices Ltd (UniServices). The current funding contract with MSD ends in February 2024.

Since 2008, GUiNZ has been managed and funded by MSD. In 2013, contract management of GUiNZ was transferred to the Social Policy Evaluation and Research Unit (Superu) and then subsequently transferred back to MSD in 2017 following the disestablishment of Superu.

The current contract was signed in October 2016 and has since been varied five times, with a current end date of 29 February 2024.

The deliverables outlined in the 2016 contract and each deed of variation thereafter are as follows:

#### ***Contract Deliverables (2016):***

- 8 Year data collection planning and design
- 8 Year data collection and processing
- Data access workshops and support
- Transfer of ante-natal, 9-month, and 24-month data to University Remote Access Data Facility
- Analysis, research and reporting for 24-month, 54-month, and 6 Year data sets

#### ***Deed of Variation #1 (2017) and #2 (2018) Deliverables:***

- Leading Light cohort data collection for 8 Year DCW
- 8 Year data collection and reporting
- 6 Year data analysis and reporting
- Transfer of Data to University Remote Access Data Facility
- Data access workshops and support
- Now We Are 8 reporting

#### ***Deed of Variation #3 (2020) Deliverables:***

- 11 Year data collection planning and design
- Leading Light cohort data collection for 11 Year DCW
- 8 Year data analysis and reporting
- Data access workshops and support

***Deed of Variation #4 (2022) Deliverables:***

- 12 Year data collection planning and design
- 12 Year cohort restoration planning and implementation
- 12 Year data collection
- Data access workshops and support
- Policy engagement sessions on Now We Are 12 (NWA12) reporting
- 12 Year data collection teacher survey
- Preparation of 12 Year datasets / data dictionaries for NWA12 reporting
- Māori longitudinal analysis for NWA12 reporting
- Māori Policy Engagement Framework
- Additional 8 Year data collection technical tools
- NWA12 report release and launch

***Deed of Variation #5 (2023) Deliverables:***

- Governance Framework developed and agreed
- Māori and Pacific cohort restoration and retention plan developed and implemented during 14 Year data collection
- Policy engagement Framework and Plan developed and agreed
- GUiNZ Governance Groups established and meeting to inform 14 Year data collection
- 14 Year collection wave plan developed and implemented