

21 February 2024

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your query submitted by online form on 18 December 2023, requesting 'all documents held by the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) regarding the effect of the High Court decisions Nixon v Chief Executive of the Ministry of Social Development [2017] NZHC 1807 and/or Nixon v Chief Executive, Ministry of Social Development.'

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

I have interpreted this request as being for information about any operational or policy changes that the Ministry implemented following the High Court decisions Nixon v Chief Executive of the Ministry of Social Development [2017] NZHC 1807 and/or Nixon v Chief Executive, Ministry of Social Development [2018] NZHC 3317. Please let me know if this was not the intent of your request.

After consultation within the Ministry I can advise that this question is refused under section 18(g) of the Act as the information you have requested is not held by the Ministry 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.

I will be publishing this decision letter, with your personal details deleted, on the Ministry's website in due course.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact <u>OIA Requests@msd.govt.nz.</u>

If you are not satisfied with my decision on your request, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at <u>www.ombudsman.parliament.nz</u> or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi

pp. Marig

Magnus O'Neill General Manager Ministerial and Executive Services