



05 August 2025

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request

On 4 July 2025, Oranga Tamariki transferred part of your request to the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) to respond to. You requested information on Barnardos New Zealand Incorporated (Barnardos).

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). *Please find my decision on each part of your request set out separately below.*

1. Historical Accreditation Status:

Could you please confirm whether Barnardos, particularly the Hamilton branch, held the same Level 1 and Level 2 accreditation and approval under sections 396 and 403 of the Oranga Tamariki Act 1989 during the period of 2017–2018?

Barnardos held both section 396 and section 403 approval and were accredited at level 1 during the period of 2017-2018.

Section 396 approval doesn't relate to supervised contact. Section 396 approval is only needed for organisations that provide care for children in state care.

Section 403 is being addressed in our response to your request of 12 June 2025. Please refer to that response which will be provided to you in due course.

2. Entity Clarification:

Are Barnardos New Zealand Incorporated and Barnardos Hamilton the same legal entity, or is Barnardos Hamilton a separate organisation? If separate, please clarify which entity held the accreditation and approval during the relevant period.

Barnardos New Zealand Incorporated is the organisation's legal name. Te Kāhui Kāhu assess an organisation's head office and any sites that require assessing. A site is defined as any location, separate from the head office, where staff are permanently based and deliver the services being accredited/approved. Sites must be a part of the same legal entity.

In this case, Barnardos New Zealand Incorporated is the legal entity, and Barnardos Hamilton is one of its sites.

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 OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

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 www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'A' followed by a horizontal line.

Anna Graham

General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services