



MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Te Manatū Whakahiato Ora

Bowen State Building, Bowen Street, Wellington 6011, PO Box 1556, Wellington 6140 • Telephone: 0-4-916 3300 • Facsimile: 0-4-918 0099

- 5 DEC 2013

Mr Lance-Desmond Lavery
fyi-request-1269-6b405d78@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Lance-Desmond Lavery

Thank you for your request for information dated 2 November 2013, which was partially transferred to the Ministry of Social Development from the Ministry of Health on 12 November 2013.

You have requested, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

1. *Does CYF encourage the Ministry of Health to make notifications concerning suspicions of child abuse to them?*
2. *Are Ministry of Health agents held responsible for unfounded notifications?*
3. *How many notifications to CYF by the Ministry of Health have been found groundless and untrue?*
4. *Is there a breakdown analysis of notifications per each ethnic group?*
5. *What is the percentage of notifications that are made about Maori families?*

This letter is to advise you that the Ministry will provide a response but needs to extend the time available to answer your request. The Ministry's response will be with you no later than 3 February 2014.

With respect to the extended due date, please note that the period from 25 December 2013 to 15 January 2014 does not amount to 'working days' as defined in section 2 of the Act.

The reason for the extension is that the Ministry needs further time to consult with other parties on the release of the information you have requested. These other parties may be affected by the release of the information and I need to provide them with an opportunity to identify any prejudice that might arise from its release before I make a final decision. I will respond to you sooner if I am able to.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of our decision to extend the time by the Ombudsman, whose address for contact purposes is:

The Ombudsman
Office of the Ombudsman
PO Box 10-152
WELLINGTON 6143

Yours sincerely

Rob Brown
General Manager Corporate and Governance

Page 1 of 1