

17 August 2020

Our Reference: IR-01-20-18227

K Baird  
[fyi-request-13205-5cc52884@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-13205-5cc52884@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear K Baird

I am writing to you in response to your email sent to New Zealand Police on 1 July 2020 which was made pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982 and specifically requested:

*Could you please provide me with the latest:  
Parental Control (Section 59 Crimes Act) chapter, policy or guidelines.  
Family Violence guidelines (commissioner circular)  
Family Violence policy  
Child abuse guidelines (commissioner circular?)  
Child abuse policy  
General instructions, related to section 59 Crimes Act 1961.*

My response to your request is as below:

Police no longer issues policy and guidelines in the form of 'General Instructions' and 'Commissioner's Circulars' and there are no current Commissioner's Circulars or General Instructions relating to any of the items listed below. Policy and guidelines are issued as 'chapters' in the Police Manual.

Section 59 Crimes Act - The 'Parental control (section 59 Crimes Act)' Police Manual chapter is the only policy or guidance relating to section 59. This policy is attached.

Family violence guidelines and family violence policy is contained in the 'Family harm policy and procedures' Police Manual chapter. This policy is attached

Police policy and guidelines relating to child abuse is detailed in the 'Child protection investigation policy and procedures' Police Manual chapter, which I've attached. This links to the Child Protection Protocol – Joint Operating Procedures between Police and Oranga Tamariki which is also attached. There is also an overarching 'Child protection policy' published on the Police website. I've attached a copy of that policy as currently published.

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## **Police National Headquarters**

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You have the right, under section 28 (3) of the Official Information Act 1982 to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision if you are not satisfied with the way I have responded to your request.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eric Tibbott', written in a cursive style.

Eric Tibbott  
National Manager  
National Prevention Centre

