

National Office

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2 April 2014

Tanya Jacob fyi-request-1522-ffb65ea0@requests.fyi.org.nz

## Dear Tanya

Thank you for your emails of 6 March 2014 requesting:

- a list, and where available, copies of, all contact the Ministry has received expressing concern or complaint regarding religious instruction (RI) in state primary and intermediate schools dating back to the beginning of 2005. This would include any log of phone calls made to the Ministry, as well as emails, letters and personal visits to offices.
- I would also like copies of any and all internal memos and reports pertaining to RI, including advisories regarding public position statements.
- Please attach dates, names of complainants and who dealt with the complaint, as well as who that staff member directly reported to.

I am sending this as an addendum to my recent Official Information Request regarding Religious Instruction concerns and complaints.

- To avoid any confusion over terminology, by Religious Instruction I am referring to any course that is run within a state primary or intermediate school under sections 77-80 of the Education Act 1964 (also known as the Nelson Clause).
- Individual complaints may use the term "religious education", or identify these courses as "values" classes, "Christian Religious Education" (or CRE), Cool Bananas, Religion in Life, Connect, or a variety of other names.

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982.

## Extension of Time Limit – Section 15A(1)(b), Official Information Act 1982

The consultation necessary to process your request is such that a proper response to the request cannot reasonably be made within the original time limit of 20 working days from the date your request was received.

I am extending the time limit for replying to you to 9 May 2014 in accordance with section 15A(1)(b) of the Official Information Act 1982. The Ministry considers that this is a reasonable period of time in the circumstances detailed above.

Under sections 19 and 28(3) of the Official Information Act 1982 you have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision.

Yours sincerely

Nash Anand Senior Manager

Education, Curriculum and Performance