

Office of the Prime Minister

Prime Minister

Minister for National Security and Intelligence

Minister for Child Poverty Reduction

Minister Responsible for Ministerial Services

Associate Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage



Chuck Schooner

By email: fyi-request-18051-c074f674@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: CPR 21-019

23 FEB 2022

Tēnā koe Chuck

Official Information Act request relating to [Schooner] Request for Child Poverty Statistics

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request, received on 24 December 2021. You requested:

“As the minister of children’s poverty can you please provide child poverty statistics

2019

2020

2021

With Maori being hesitant to take the experimental gene therapy please provide total amount of children and families you are forecasting to deliberately put into poverty due to Maori not taking the gene therapy. Please provide any and all reporting with the forecasts for 2022 and 2023.”

Statistics New Zealand publishes annual child poverty statistics on their website. This includes a breakdown of child poverty rates among Māori and Pacific children. The child poverty statistics for 2019 and 2020 can be found at this address:

<https://www.stats.govt.nz/news/latest-release-of-child-poverty-statistics>.

The child poverty statistics for 2021 are not due to be published until 24 February 2022. Once published, they will be available at the address listed above. This part of your request is therefore refused under 18(d) of the Act as the information is, or will soon be, publicly available.

The Government provides projections of future child poverty rates as part of its annual Child Poverty Report, which is released alongside the Budget each year. The Child Poverty Report 2021 includes projections for the next four years (to 2025), and is publicly available here:

<https://budget.govt.nz/budget/2021/wellbeing/child-poverty-report/index.htm>

The Government also sets three- and ten-year targets for reducing child poverty. The next three-year targets are for the period from 2021/22 to 2023/24. You can read more about the targets in the Cabinet paper at the following address:

<https://dpmc.govt.nz/publications/proactive-release-child-poverty-targets>

The Government is not undertaking any form of experimental gene therapy. This part of your request is therefore refused under section 18(e) of the Act, as that the information requested does not exist, or despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

Ngā mihi nui



Raj Nahna
Chief of Staff