

# Hon Marama Davidson

Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence and Sexual Violence  
Minita mō te Ārai i te Whakarekerekere Whānau me te Koeretanga

Associate Minister of Housing (Homelessness)  
Minita Tuarua mō Ngā Take Whare (Kāinga Kore)



2023\_OIA087

Miss Cooper  
[fyi-request-22279-f4ff6302@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-22279-f4ff6302@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Tēnā koe Miss Cooper

Thank you for your email 27 March 2023 in which you asked for information about a comment I made. Your request has been treated in accordance with the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

Your questions and my responses are as follows:

- 1. all information produced or received by you and your office that supports the [statement].*

Please refer to a copy of my public statement from 27 March 2023 which clarifies the comments I made on 25 March 2023. This is attached as Appendix A.

In respect of the statistical evidence relating to violence in Aotearoa, the information that I rely on as Minister is that which is publicly available and relied on by a range of government agencies and sector organisations.

Statistics from the Ministry of Justice show that in 2022 90 percent of people convicted of family violence offences were male (7,170 people). 35 percent of people convicted were European. In 2022, 99 percent of people convicted of sexual offences were male (782 people). 46 percent of people convicted were European.

While the above data relates to those people convicted of family violence and sexual violence offences, there are high rates of attrition through the criminal justice system (ie not progressing to conviction) particularly in relation to reported sexual violence victimisations (see [Ministry of Justice Attrition and Progression report](#)). I also wish to note that we know reported violence does not equate to the prevalence of violence within our communities in Aotearoa. The NZ Crime and Victims Survey shows that only 32% of family violence is reported to Police and only 8% of sexual violence offences are reported to Police.

It is important to recognise the gaps in the data regarding the incidence of violence, particularly for diverse communities. I consider the voices and expertise of communities and sectors and the lived experience of victim-survivors to be critical evidence alongside population and administrative data. Te Aorerekura – the National Strategy for the Elimination of Family Violence and Sexual Violence

– seeks to address these gaps by creating a learning and monitoring system under Actions 38 and 39 of the first Action Plan.

For more information regarding information on population data and the gendered nature of violence and impacts on diverse communities please refer to Appendix B (attached).

2. *all information and correspondence, including emails, text messages and recollections of verbal conversations relating to the [statement], or relating to Posie Parker/Kellie-Jay Keen-Minshull.*

My attendance at the protest event in Albert Park on 25/03/2023 was arranged in my capacity as the Co-Leader of the Green Party of Aotearoa. While I did not attend in my capacity as the Minister for the Prevention of Family and Sexual Violence, I acknowledge that when questioned by Counterspin I responded as Minister.

The Act applies to information held by a Minister of the Crown in their official capacity only. It does not include information held by a Minister in their private capacity, in their capacity as an MP or in their capacity as a member of a political party. To this end, I have focussed your request on information held by me in my official capacity only.

All potential information and communications relevant to your request have been collated as was practicable with a view to public release. These materials have been reviewed in accordance with the Act. Please refer to the table attached as Appendix C with a list of relevant information and my decisions regarding release.

Some information has been withheld in accordance with the Act under the following grounds:

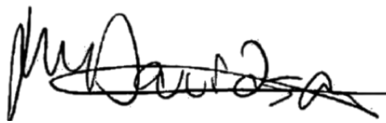
- Section 9(2)(a) of the Act which applies to "protect the privacy of natural persons".
- Section 9(2)(ba)(i) of the Act which applies "where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied".
- Section 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act which applies to "maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to Ministers of the Crown or members of an organisation or officers and employees of any public service agency or organisation in the course of their duty".

Finally, I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge and affirm those victim-survivors and people who did not see their own experiences of violence reflected in comments I made on Saturday, 25 March. As Minister for Prevention of Family and Sexual Violence, and through [Te Aorerekura our National Strategy to Eliminate Family and Sexual Violence](#), supporting victims of family and sexual violence remains an utmost priority for me.

It is important we continue to talk about how people of all genders and backgrounds can be subjected to family violence or sexual violence. Every victim-survivor deserves to have their experiences validated and have access to the support they need. I want to assure you that I remain firmly focused on our collective work towards an Aotearoa New Zealand where all people and families can be safe, and live their lives free from violence.

You have the right under section 28(3) to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone on 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Davidson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Hon Marama Davidson

**Minister for the Prevention of Family and Sexual Violence**

**Minita mō te Ārai i te Whakarekerekere Whānau me te Koeretanga**

## **Appendix A: Statement from Hon Marama Davidson Monday 27 March 2023.**

On Saturday morning, I was hit by a motorcyclist who struck me at a pedestrian crossing. The person who hit me was part of a convoy of motorcyclists.

A short time after the incident, I was confronted by a representative from the far-right and conspiracy theory website Counterspin who was filming me walking down the road before accosting me with inflammatory questions. A clip of that video is now circulating online and is being used to distract from a broader conversation about the causes of violence in Aotearoa.

Still in shock, I was not as clear in my comments to the conspiracy theorists Counterspin as I should have been.

Violence is unacceptable in any community and as the Minister responsible for Aotearoa's first ever plan to eliminate family violence and sexual violence, I am committed to an Aotearoa where all people are safe and can live peaceful lives. My top priority is to support, protect and believe all victims and survivors of violence.

Women are overwhelmingly more likely to be victims of family violence and sexual violence at the hands of men. It is also important to acknowledge the disproportionate impact violence has on our rainbow whānau and diverse communities.

I should have made clear in my comments that violence happens in every community. My intention was to affirm that trans people are deserving of support and to keep the focus on the fact that men are the main perpetrators of violence.

I will continue to stand with my trans and non-binary whānau and support action to ensure that everyone can live their lives without fear of hate or discrimination.

I will not be commenting further at this time.

Source: [https://www.greens.org.nz/statement\\_from\\_marama\\_davidson](https://www.greens.org.nz/statement_from_marama_davidson)

## **Appendix B – Further information on population data and gendered nature of violence**

### [Data tables | New Zealand Ministry of Justice](#)

These data tables show specific offences and the outcome in the justice system. For information on gender and ethnicity please refer to the data tables related to specific offence types e.g:

- Homicide offences
- Sexual offences
- Family violence offences
- Offences related to family violence
- Violent Offences – e.g. Table 3b: Number and percentage of people convicted of violent offences by gender, ethnicity and age group 2013 – 2022

### [New Zealand Crime & Victims Survey \(NZCVS\) | New Zealand Ministry of Justice](#)

This survey collects information each year from 8,000 New Zealanders from all walks of life. Not all crimes are reported to the Police, so this survey is intended to provide a clearer picture of victimisation in New Zealand.

Of particular relevance, given the focus of the protest event, the Crime and Victims Survey shows that LGBTQIA+ people experience higher levels of violence than other New Zealanders. 68% of bisexual adults will experience interpersonal sexual violence compared with the national average of 29%.

### [Family Violence Death Review Committee 6<sup>th</sup> Report](#)

The [Family Violence Death Committee](#)'s sixth report "Men who use violence | Ngā tāne ka whakamahi i te whakarekerekere" provides an analysis on intimate partner violence deaths between 2009-2027 and related gender and ethnicity data.

The Report states that from 2009 to 2017, 230 deaths resulting from family violence were recorded in Aotearoa, with intimate partner violence the single largest contributor. Among the 102 deaths resulting from intimate partner violence:

- 76% of offenders were men
- 71% of those killed were women.

### [Police Homicide Victims Report 2020](#)

Police Statistics on Homicide Victims in New Zealand 2007-2019 provides a summary of statistics about Victims of Murder, Manslaughter and Infanticide.

The Report notes that around 16% of homicides were committed by current or ex-partners, and of these 74% of victims were female.

## [National Youth Health and Wellbeing Survey 2021](#)

The National Youth Health and Wellbeing Survey 2021 'What about me?' notes that rangatahi Māori, females, rainbow and disabled young people all experience higher rates of harm and have fewer protective factors.

It provides ethnic breakdowns in relation to experiences of harm at home and unwanted sexual contact.

The following resources provide more analysis and discussion on the gendered nature of violence and the impacts of violence on diverse communities.

- [Te Aorerekura – The National Strategy to Eliminate Family Violence and Sexual Violence](#). Pages 10-13 of the strategy provide a summary of family violence and sexual violence in Aotearoa New Zealand, how family violence and sexual violence are about power, and how gender inequities shape family violence and sexual violence.
- [Family Violence Capability Frameworks](#) – these frameworks provide information that offers a shared understanding of family violence and sets standards and essential knowledge to guide and support people and organisations to respond to family violence in safe and effective ways.

Pages 16-38 of both frameworks address the gendered nature of family violence and impacts on diverse communities.

- [Te Puna Aonui analysis papers from communities](#) – these papers summarise what government heard from key groups in the family and sexual violence system during engagement to develop Te Aorerekura. They draw on some existing evidence that highlights the prevalence and different dynamics of violence each of these groups experience.

## Appendix C

Description of information	Decision/Information
<p>Communications between my office and the Prime Minister's Office from 25 March 2023. These communications are in scope as they took place by virtue of my position as a Minister of the Crown and discuss an incident which took place at the event related to Kellie-Jay Keen-Minshull's visit to New Zealand.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="635 367 1321 719">1. Phone call: Hon Davidson's Chief of Staff to PM's Chief Press Secretary, 12.56pm, 25 March 2023. Recollection of conversation: informed PM's Chief Press Secretary of an incident with a motorcycle (<b><i>the incident</i></b>) and intention to release a Green Party statement to media. PM's Chief Press Secretary offered to inform the PM and PM's Chief of Staff.</li> <li data-bbox="635 763 1321 954">2. Phone call: Hon Davidson's Chief of Staff to PM's Chief Press Secretary, 1.49pm, 25 March 2023. Recollection of conversation: discussed draft statement about the incident.</li> <li data-bbox="635 999 1321 1267">3. PM's Chief of Staff to Hon Davidson's Chief of Staff, 1.58pm, 25 March 2023. Recollection of conversation: Noted that the PM had been informed of the incident. Hon Davidson's Chief of Staff provided a status update regarding Minister Davidson's personal wellbeing.</li> <li data-bbox="635 1312 1321 1547">4. Emails: Hon Davidson's Chief of Staff and PM's Office, 25 March 2023. Email forwarding the Green Party statement regarding the incident. Please see the attached document. Some information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.</li> <li data-bbox="635 1592 1321 1895">5. Text messages: Hon Davidson's Chief of Staff and PM's Chief Press Secretary, 25 March 2023. Text messages regarding draft statement about the incident and regarding Minister Davidson's personal wellbeing. Withheld under sections 9(2)(a) and 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act.</li> <li data-bbox="635 1939 1321 2018">6. Text messages: Hon Davidson's Chief of Staff and PM's Chief of Staff, 25 March 2023.</li> </ol>

	Text messages regarding Minister Davidson's personal wellbeing. Messages withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
Communications between my office and the Prime Minister's Office regarding the [statement] from 27 March 2023.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Phone call: Hon Davidson's Director of Communications to the PM's Chief Press Secretary, 12.06pm, 27 March 2023 Recollection of conversation: informed PM's Chief Press Secretary of plan to issue a statement clarifying Minister Davidson's comments. Discussed what the PM planned to say about Minister Davidson's comments.</li> <li>2. Phone call: PM's Chief Press Secretary to Hon Davidson's Director of Communications, 12.19pm, 27 March 2023 Recollection of conversation: PM's Chief Press Secretary informed Director of Communications that the PM would comment at post-Cabinet press conference that afternoon.</li> <li>3. Text messages: PM's Chief Press Secretary and Hon Davidson's Director of Communications, 27 March 2023 Text messages regarding the statement clarifying Minister Davidson's comments. Please see the attached document. Some information withheld under section 9(2)(g)(i).</li> </ol>
Correspondence received in my Ministerial capacity from members of the public regarding Kellie-Jay Keen-Minshull's planned visit to New Zealand.	<p>I received 4 emails raising concerns regarding Kellie-Jay Keen-Minshull and her proposed visit to New Zealand.</p> <p>I withhold this correspondence under sections 9(2)(a) and 9(2)(ba)(i) of the Act. It is important that members of the public feel they can contact me as Minister in confidence to raise their concerns. This is particularly important noting the nature of the concerns often raised to me as the Minister for the Prevention of Family and Sexual Violence. In my view there is not sufficient public interest in the information included in the correspondence received regarding Kellie-Jay Keen-Minshull's planned visit to New Zealand to justify the provision of that correspondence.</p>



	<p>For completeness, I note that I responded to two of these emails (one on 29 March 2023 and the other on 5 April 2023) outlining the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• that I am unable to become involved in agency operational matters and therefore was not able to intervene in the visa approval process for Kellie-Jay Keen-Minshull,</li> <li>• my support for the trans and Rainbow communities,</li> <li>• acknowledgement of the disproportionate impact of violence on Rainbow communities, and</li> <li>• progress being made under Te Aorerekura.</li> </ul>
<p>Correspondence received from members of the public in my Ministerial capacity regarding the [statement].</p>	<p>I received a large volume of messages from the public via email, as physical letters and over social media regarding the [statement]. These messages broadly either raised concerns with or questions about my [statement], offered me support following the incidents of the weekend and/or were threatening in nature.</p> <p>For similar reasons as outlined in the row above, I withhold this correspondence under sections 9(2)(a) and 9(2)(ba)(i) of the Act. It is important to protect members of the public's ability to contact me in confidence and I take the view after having reviewed the correspondence that there is not sufficient public interest in the information included in the correspondence received to justify its provision.</p> <p>For completeness, I have responded to, and plan to respond to, some of this correspondence. My responses have and will primarily refer people to my publicly clarified comments, offer additional information regarding progress under Te Aorerekura and where appropriate direct people to support services for survivors and victims.</p>
<p>Communications between myself, my office and broader Green Party colleagues regarding my [statement] and development of the</p>	<p>I refer you to my public statement which is attached as Appendix A, my <a href="#">Facebook post of 27 March 2023</a> and <a href="#">my comments in the House of Representatives at Question Time on 28 March 2023</a>.</p>

<p>subsequent public clarification</p>	<p>In the development of these public statements there were a number of communications between myself, members of my office and my broader Green Party colleagues. These communications occurred across several different mediums including emails, text messages and in person discussions. The focus on these communications was on my recovery and developing a public statement to clarify my remarks.</p> <p>Having reviewed these communications I withhold them under sections 9(2)(a) and 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act.</p>
<p>Meeting with Te Puna Aonui Officials on Monday 27 March 2023 via Zoom</p>	<p>At the beginning of a regular weekly meeting with Officials I raised the events of the weekend of 25 March 2023.</p> <p>Recollection of the meeting: I noted that in making my [statement] I did not use the words I would usually use when addressing issues regarding the gendered nature of violence and the impact of violence on diverse communities.</p>

**From:** Section 9(2)(a) - PMO Staffer  
**To:** [^Parliament: Robin Campbell](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Green Party statement on events at Auckland protest  
**Date:** Monday, 3 April 2023 3:10:52 pm

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Thanks Robin, stay in touch

Sent with BlackBerry Work  
(www.blackberry.com)

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**From:** Robin Campbell <§ 9(2)(a)>  
**Date:** Saturday, 25 Mar 2023 at 2:02 PM  
**To:** PMOmedia <[@..](#)>, Andrew Campbell  
**Section 9(2)(a) - PMO Staffer**  
**Subject:** FW: Green Party statement on events at Auckland protest

FYI

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**From:** Robin Campbell  
**Sent:** Saturday, 25 March 2023 2:01 PM  
**To:** Robin Campbell <§ 9(2)(a)>  
**Subject:** Green Party statement on events at Auckland protest



Statement from Green Party Co-leader James Shaw:

The Green Party stands with our trans and non-binary whānau. Aotearoa should be a place where everyone can live their lives without fear of hate or discrimination.

Following a public rally in support of trans and non-binary human rights in Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland today, Green Party Co-leader Marama Davidson has reported an incident to Police. It appears a motorcyclist failed to stop at a pedestrian crossing and Marama was knocked to the ground.

The incident has been reported to Police and Marama is seeing a doctor. Until Police have confirmed their next steps, we will not be making further comment.

The Green Party's commitment to non-violence is at the heart of our founding values. This news is upsetting and we are asking people to show care and love.

We ask everyone to give Marama and her whānau some space and time to process what has happened.

ENDS

Media contact: Robin Campbell s 9(2)(a)



**Robin Campbell (he/him) | Chief of Staff**

**Offices of Hon Marama Davidson & Hon James Shaw**

**Green Party of Aotearoa New Zealand**

Parliament House 2-014, 1 Museum Street | Private Bag 18041 | Wellington 6160 | New Zealand

s 9(2)(a) | s 9(2)(a)

Authorised by Marama Davidson MP and James Shaw MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington

s 9(2)(g)(i)

Copy of MD Statement - 27.03.2023

s 9(2)(g)(i)



docs.google.com

Hey. Any thoughts on this?

s 9(2)(g)(i)

s 9(2)(g)(i) Will send some edits in a second 2:13 PM

Can you see my edits? 2:17 PM

Yep. I can. 2:18 PM

Cool, wasn't sure. s 9(2)(g)(i) 2:18 PM

Are you comfortable with it with those edits? 2:19 PM

yes! 2:19 PM

Do you mind forwarding me the final once it is sent out so I can show the PM, thank you 2:23 PM

Yep. Of course. I'll BCC you. 2:23 PM