

18 December 2024

M Grange

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Official information request Our ref: R00579

Tēnā koe M Grange

I refer to your Official Information Act (OIA) request of 16 October 2024. You requested:

- 1. All formal (whether oral or written) submissions to the ECE Regulatory Review from kindergarten associations.
- 2. All correspondence from kindergarten associations to the Minister or Ministry personnel relating to this ECE Regulatory Review.
- 3. Any internal or external memos, diary notes, or the like, between the Minister and/or Ministry personnel relating to kindergartens, kindergarten associations in relation to this ECE Regulatory Review

Item 1

I have previously communicated my decision to you on this part of your request in my letter of 13 November 2024.

Item 2

The information you requested is provided in the enclosed appendix under heading 'Question 2'.

Item 3

The information you requested is provided in the enclosed appendix, under heading 'Question 3'.

Two further documents in scope of your request are refused under section 18(d) of the OIA, as the information is publicly available. The relevant briefing and accompanying report are available on the Ministry for Regulation website:

- https://www.regulation.govt.nz/assets/Publication-Documents/MFR2024-121-Early-Childhood-Education-Regulatory-System-Review-Themes-from-direct-engagement.pdf
- https://www.regulation.govt.nz/assets/Publication-Documents/ECE-Regulatory-Review-what-submitters-said-October-2024.pdf

The Ministry also provided updates regarding the review through weekly reports to the Minister, which have been proactively released. If you are interested in reviewing these, you can find copies

of the Weekly Reports on the Ministry's website (https://www.regulation.govt.nz/about-us/our-publications/), and filtering the search topic as 'Weekly Report'.

Information withheld

Some information in the enclosed appendix has been withheld under sections 9(2)(a) of the OIA, to protect the privacy of natural persons, and 9(2)(ba)(ii) of the OIA, to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence, and it is in the public interest that such information continue to be supplied.

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the OIA and concluded that the public interest in releasing this information does not outweigh the need to withhold it.

Information outside scope

The attached appendix also contains information that is outside the scope of your request. This information has not been considered for release and has been withheld as 'not in scope'.

Right of review

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please contact hello@regulation.govt.nz. You have the right 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 or freephone 0800 802 602. Please note that we may publish this response (with your details removed) on the Ministry for Regulation website.

Ngā mihi

Paula Knaap

Deputy Chief Executive Organisational Enablement Ministry for Regulation