



08 OCT 2015

Belinda Blair

By email: fyi-request-3173-8e5a20c3@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Ms Blair

Official Information Act request

Thank you for your email of 26 September 2015, in which you request information about legally aided proceedings under the Children, Young Persons, and Their Families Act 1989 (the Act).

You have specifically requested the number of legal aid applications received in the last year relating to orders under section 14(1)(e) of the Act, broken down by the following categories:

- the amount of legal aid funding approved for payment to providers
- the highest amount approved for payment to a single provider.

Your request has been referred to me for a response and is being managed under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

Legal aid is government funding to pay for legal help for people who cannot afford a lawyer. Legal aid is an important part of New Zealand's justice system. It helps people to resolve legal problems which may go to court and makes sure that people are not denied justice because they cannot afford a lawyer. People who get legal aid may have to pay a user charge or repay part or all of their legal aid costs. More information about legal aid can be found on our website:

<http://www.justice.govt.nz/services/legal-help/legal-aid>.


Unfortunately, our electronic operating system does not differentiate applications received under particular sections of the Act. Individual paper-based legal aid files may have the detail you are requesting. However, to obtain this information it would require a manual review of those files identified within the scope of your request. This information cannot be obtained without substantial research and collation, therefore your request has been refused under section 18(f) of the OIA.

If you require any clarification of the information contained in this response to your Official Information Act request, please contact Antony Paltridge, Team Leader, Media and External Relations, at Antony.Paltridge@justice.govt.nz or call (04) 918 8980 or 027 689 0667.

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review our decision under section 28(3) of the OIA.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michele McCreadie". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M'.

Michele McCreadie 
General Manager, Legal Aid Services