



## Office of Hon Paula Bennett

Minister for Social Development  
Minister of Youth Affairs

18 SEP 2012

Ms Julie Fairey  
[fyi-request-495-32c9c93e@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-495-32c9c93e@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Ms Fairey

Thank you for your email of 15 August 2012 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982, the following information:

*"who funded the private settlement that Minister Bennett reached with Natasha Fuller over the breach of her privacy. In addition to the cost of the settlement I would like to know if there were any additional costs, such as legal advice for Ms Bennett, and if so who paid for those."*

I made no private settlement with Ms Fuller as I do not accept that I breached her privacy.

As there was no settlement there was no settlement cost. There was a cost relating to the legal advice which I received from the Crown Law Office and from a Queen's Counsel. This legal advice was paid for by the Ministry of Social Development.

I refer you also to the public statement released by the Director of Human Rights Proceedings on 15 August 2012, available at [www.hrc.co.nz/2012/office-of-human-rights-proceedings-media-statement](http://www.hrc.co.nz/2012/office-of-human-rights-proceedings-media-statement).

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of my response by the Ombudsman, whose address for contact purposes is:

The Ombudsman  
Office of the Ombudsman  
PO Box 10-152  
WELLINGTON 6143

Yours sincerely

Hon Paula Bennett  
Minister for Social Development