



Health and Disability Commissioner
Te Toihau Hauora, Hauātanga

21 September 2012

Josh Martin
Email: fyi-request-552-b40c2917@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Martin

Enquiry: Official Information Act Request
Our ref: E12HDC03537

I write further to your email of 19 September 2012 requesting the following information:

1. "Any advice, official documents or correspondence regarding the education of depression and mental health in schools, to any other party."
2. "Any submissions or correspondence to Ministers or other Ministries which states how effective or ineffective current school guidelines around the education of mental health, depression and suicide are in New Zealand schools."
3. Any correspondence which offers a recommended course of action to counter the relatively high number of teenage suicides in New Zealand."

My response

I have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA) and respond accordingly.

The Office of the Health and Disability Commissioner took over the advocacy and monitoring functions of the former Mental Health Commission when it was disestablished in June 2012. A new position of Mental Health Commissioner was established within the Office of the Health and Disability Commissioner and has been tasked with continuing to build on the gains made in the sector in the areas of advocacy and monitoring since the Mental Health Commission was established in 1996.

Information relating to requests numbers (1) and (3) is detailed in "Blueprint II: How Things Need to Be" and the companion document "Blueprint II: Making Change Happen". Of particular relevance are pages 11-20 in "Blueprint II: Making Change Happen". Both documents are available on HDC's website:

<http://www.hdc.org.nz/about-us/mental-health-and-addictions/key-mental-health-publications>

Any other information that may fall within requests (1) and (3) cannot be made available without substantial collation or research, and fixing a charge or extending the time limit under sections 15 and 15A would not enable the request to be granted. Accordingly, I have decided to refuse your request for any other information that may fall under (1) and (3) pursuant to section 18(f) of the OIA.

HDC does not hold any information in relation to request number (2) and I have no grounds for believing that the information is either held by another department, Minister, organisation or by a local authority; or connected more closely with the functions of another department, Minister, organisation or of a local authority. Accordingly, I refuse request number (2) under section 18(g) of the OIA.

You may seek a review of this decision from the Office of the Ombudsman.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lynne Lane', written in a cursive style.

Lynne Lane
Mental Health Commissioner