

Office of the Commissioner

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28 March 2018

E Maritz fyi-request-7343-efc08f66@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear E Maritz

I write regarding your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), received on 28 February 2018. You requested:

- 1. ... the amounts for (2016, 2017, & 2018) in regards to the reallocated funds from child support collected other than the support of the child, i.e the amount after the cost of the child is taken away that the WINZ system carries out Fraud on the children concerned, and re-apply those funds to reducing the States liability for the main custodial parent. One could go further to highlight this as being State sanctioned financial child abuse of children of parents either students/individuals on benefits by using a financial tool to do so.
- 2. How many individuals this has affected, in the above years, and the amount (\$) gained by re-taxing this child support amount that already had tax applied to it, then again has tax applied again due to the Work & Income Support system, for the above years.
- 3. The amount of child support tax that has been collected in the above years by this double taxing system that affects only students of individuals on benefits in New Zealand, highlighting again a breach of Human Rights within New Zealand.
- 4. For research purpose and referencing I would gratefully appreciate the full dollars and cents in regards to the information above.

I wrote to you on 8 March 2018, asking you to provide us with your contact details or to email us at oia@ird.govt.nz, to clarify your request. This was to ensure that we could give you relevant and helpful information. I asked you to get in touch with us by 19 March 2018.

We have not heard from you and have not received clarification of your request. Having considered your request, I have reached the conclusion it can be interpreted in a number of different ways. When making an OIA request, it is helpful if you can ask your questions as clearly and specifically as possible, so it meets the test of being asked with due particularity as required by section 12(2) of the Act.

You are welcome to clarify your request or make another OIA request via the FYI website. Alternatively, you can contact us directly at the address on our letterhead, or via email at oia@ird.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely

Kerryn McIntosh-Watt

Manager, Government and Executive Services