



15 MAY 2018

David Kruiniger
fyi-request-7793-ac183d1b@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Kruiniger

Thank you for your email dated 9 May 2018 about your family situation. I am very sorry to hear of the hardships you have suffered as a result of family violence.

You have written to enquire whether you can obtain funding as a male victim of domestic violence, so that you can retain legal representation to obtain a parenting order through the courts.

The \$76.157m of additional funding (over four years) for family violence services that was announced on 9 May 2018 is for direct services funded by the Ministry of Social Development for victims, perpetrators and their families. These services include family and whānau services (including longer-term recovery, counselling and safety planning); programmes for self-referred perpetrators; immediate crisis response and support services for victims of family violence and longer-term psychological recovery services for victims.

Unfortunately, this funding does not cover financial assistance towards legal costs.

I would encourage you to approach the Citizen's Advice Bureau who can advise you on the steps to progress the formalisation of a parenting agreement. You may also be able to apply for legal aid to help you resolve your dispute about the care of your child. More information about legal aid is found at this website: www.justice.govt.nz/courts/going-to-court/legal-aid/. Information on family violence services available in your local area can be found at this website: www.familyservices.govt.nz/directory/.

Thank you for taking the time to share with me your personal circumstances. I wish you all the best as you work through this situation.

Yours sincerely

Elisabeth Brunt
General Manager
Ministerial and Executive Services