## **Hon Carmel Sepuloni**

MP for Kelston

Minister for Social Development Minister for Disability Issues Associate Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage Associate Minister for Pacific Peoples



Gregory Soar gregsoar@me.com

Q 1 FEB 2019

Tēnā koe Gregory Soar

Thank you for your emails of 7 and 8 January 2019 advising that you had not received a response to the first part of an email to me, originally sent on 24 September 2018, and resent on 11 October 2018. I understand that my Private Secretary, Hannah Lee, has recently emailed you to apologise for the delay in my response.

You have asked if I was aware of the use of pseudonyms by Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) staff. I can confirm I was made aware that this practice occurred and I have been kept updated following the High Court decision. The Ministry no longer uses pseudonyms for Remote Client Unit staff or Benefits Review Committee members.

I understand that you have received a letter dated 6 November 2018 from the Ministry in response to the second part of your email of 11 October 2018 advising you that the Ministry has discontinued this practice.

Thank you again for writing. I hope this information is of assistance.

Ngā mihi nui

Hon Carmel Sepuloni

Minister for Social Development