Thank you for your email of 8 June 2018 to Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children (Oranga Tamariki), requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- In the last two years, broken down by year, how many requests for information under the act were:
  - denied in full
  - granted in part
  - granted in full

- When refusing or partially refusing requests, what is the reason provide most often?

- How many responses have been extended beyond the 20-day deadline?

- On what subject/topic is information most regularly requested?

- On how many occasions have responses to requests been reviewed by the Minister before being released?

I will answer each of your questions separately.

1. In the last two years, broken down by year, how many requests for information under the act were:
   - denied in full
   - granted in part
   - granted in full

As you may be aware, Oranga Tamariki was established on 1 April 2017, therefore has not been in existence for the period of time for which you have requested information, however, we hold information for the financial year beginning 1 July 2017. The table below outlines the information you have requested, from 1 July 2017 to 11 June 2018.
Number of responses to Official Information Act requests by type, 1 July 2017 to 11 June 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Declined</th>
<th>Partially released</th>
<th>Released in full</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>154</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. **When refusing or partially refusing requests, what is the reason provided most often?**

Any decisions to refuse or withhold information are made in accordance with the Act, and we are subject to review by the Ombudsman. The grounds most commonly used to refuse a request or withhold information are:

- 18(d), the information is publicly available;
- 18(e), information does not exist;
- 18(f), substantial manual collation;
- 9(2)(a), to protect the privacy of natural persons; and
- 9(2)(f)(iv), the information is under active consideration.

3. **How many responses have been extended beyond the 20-day deadline?**

Between 1 July 2017 and 11 June 2018, 35 responses were extended beyond the 20 day deadline.

4. **On what subject/topic is information most regularly requested?**

We do not hold complete information on requests by topic for 2017, however, this year the information that was requested more than other topics was data and statistics.

5. **On how many occasions have responses to requests been reviewed by the Minister before being released?**

We adhere to the guidance provided in the Cabinet Manual, and by the State Services Commission, in terms of providing copies of some replies to requests for official information to Ministerial Offices under the “no surprises” principle, and in accordance with section 15(5) of the Act.

Responses to Official Information Act requests received by Oranga Tamariki may be sent to the office of the Minister for Children for information only. Therefore your request for how many responses the Minister has reviewed is refused under section 18(e) of the Official Information Act as this information does not exist.

You may be interested to know that our recent responses to Official Information Act requests are published on our website. If you wish to read them and find out more about the requests we receive, you can do so at this address: [https://www.orangatamariki.govt.nz/official-information-act/ola-responses/](https://www.orangatamariki.govt.nz/official-information-act/ola-responses/).

We intend to make the information contained in this letter available to the wider public shortly. We will do this by publishing this letter on our website.
Your personal details will be deleted and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@ot.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision. Information about this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by contacting them on 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

Steve Groom
General Manager Public, Ministerial and Executive Services