Thank you for your email of 13 August 2018, to Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children (Oranga Tamariki), requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

I'd like information on:

- 1) the number of staff whose main role/functions was to develop policy analysis and advice in 2017/18 financial year
- 2) the number of staff in question 1) above who attended external training or development courses in 2017/18
- 3) an estimate of the amount spent on external training and development courses for the staff in question 1) above in 2017/18
- 4) an estimate of the number of days that staff in questions 1) spent in external training or development courses in 2017/18.

The Oranga Tamariki Policy team is part of our wider Policy and Organisational Strategy team. Their role includes:

- Leading policy for vulnerable children and young people, including leadership of statutory care and protection policy;
- Joint responsibility for youth justice policy with the Ministry of Justice;
- Responsibility for wider policy for vulnerable children and young people;
- Leading work on New Zealand's international commitments to vulnerable children and young people; and
- Providing advice to Ministers on Government priorities.
Together with their manager, all Oranga Tamariki staff are encouraged to identify areas where they feel they (and their team) would benefit from further development, in order to widen their skill set or assist with the next step in their career. Where appropriate, Oranga Tamariki can organise and finance staff to attend courses and training, whether internal or external.

As at 30 June 2018, there were 38 staff in the Oranga Tamariki Policy team who develop policy analysis and advice, including managerial staff. Please note there are other Oranga Tamariki staff who may provide policy analysis and advice, but it is not their main role.

Since Oranga Tamariki was established on 1 April 2017, staff numbers have continued to grow as the requirements of each team are assessed. Even though there were 38 staff in the Policy team as at 30 June 2018, there were not 38 staff in the team for the whole of the 2017/18 financial year.

Six staff members from the Oranga Tamariki Policy team attended external training or development courses organised and financed by Oranga Tamariki in the 2017/18 financial year. The amount spent by Oranga Tamariki on external training and development courses for the six staff members stated above for the 2017/18 financial year, totalled $3,188. As a whole, these six staff spent a total of eleven days on training and courses for this time period.

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 we 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

[Signature]

Steve Groom
General Manager Public, Ministerial and Executive Services