

25 May 2023

D Towell

fyi-request-21854-855aca92@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe D Towell

Thank you for your email of 16 February 2023 to Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children (Oranga Tamariki), requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- *Copies of any reports, emails or other written documents, written in the last 10 years by OT staff raising concerns about Section 17, the effect of overseas adoption, in the Adoption Act 1955.*
- *Copies of any reports, emails or other written documentation, co-authored in the last 10 years by OT staff, along with any other agencies, raising concerns about Section 17, the effect of overseas adoption, in the Adoption Act 1955.*
- *In how many instances in the last 10 years have OT staff identified concerns about the welfare of children adopted overseas, and recognised as adopted by NZ authorities under section 17 of the Adoption Act 1955?
Please break down how many relate to concerns about physical; mental; and/or sexual abuse, and the home country of these children.
How many referrals have been made by OT regarding the safety of children adopted under the Adoption Act 1955 to other NZ agencies?
How many overseas children, recognised as adopted by NZ authorities under section 17 of the Adoption Act 1955, have been repatriated to their home country by OT in the last 10 years. And to which country have these children been repatriated.*
- *Copies of any referrals or reports made to other NZ agencies raising concerns their children recognised as adopted under section 17 of the Adoption Act 1955.*

This letter notifies you we have found information in scope of your request. However, we need to undertake further consultation to ensure we release the information appropriately. I anticipate we will provide your response by 22 June 2023 and will work to do so earlier if possible.

Should you wish to discuss any part of your request with us, please do not hesitate to contact us at 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.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Oldfield', followed by a colon.

Cameron Oldfield
Acting Manager Ministerial Support