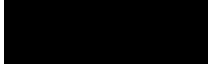




23 August 2021



Tēnā koe 

Thank you for your email of 13 July 2021 to the Ministry of Education requesting the following information:

1. *A copy of the scoping report of statutory intervention of St Marcellin School*

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

You'll be aware that a Limited Statutory Manager was in place for St Marcellin School between May 2019 and February 2021. He had powers and duties in employment, curriculum, and finance. In February 2021, the School Board wrote to the Ministry asking to be dissolved. Te Tiwha Puketapu was appointed as Commissioner on 25 February 2021.

Whenever an intervention is started or changed, the Ministry requires the appointee to complete a Scoping Report. This is to check that the level of intervention is appropriate and to make sure all parties are aware of all the current issues of concern. In this case, the Commissioner asked an independent consultant to complete the document to avoid any perception of bias or conflict of interest arising from his time as Limited Statutory Manager. Scoping reports enable the appointee and Ministry to define the objectives for the intervention, which are recorded in an Outcomes Plan.

We have identified the document that you have requested and are releasing it to you in part as the attached **Appendix A**. Some of the information has been withheld under the following sections of the Act:

- *Section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of natural persons.*
- *Section 9(2)(ba)(i) of the Act, to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence, where the making available would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied.*
- *Section 9(2)(ba)(ii) of the Act, to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence, where the making available of the information would be likely otherwise to damage the public interest.*
- *9(2)(g)(i) of the Act to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to Ministers of the Crown or members of an organisation or officers and employees of any public service agency or organisation in the course of their duty.*

As required under section 9(1) of the Act, I have considered the public interest in the release of the information withheld and I have identified no public interest considerations sufficient to outweigh the need to withhold this information.

Please note, the Ministry now proactively publishes OIA responses on our website. As such, we may publish this response on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed.

Thank you again for your email. You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marlene Clarkson', written in a cursive style.

Marlene Clarkson
**Director of Education for Taranaki Whanganui Manawatu
Sector Enablement and Support**