

Abortion Supervisory Committee

8 October 2015

Bob McCoskrie
Family First NZ
By email: bob@familyfirst.org.nz

Dear Mr McCoskrie

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

I refer to your email of 28 August 2015 to the Abortion Supervisory Committee (ASC) requesting information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

I have outlined each specific part of your request, and the ASC's response to each part, below.

1. *All documentation received or sent by the ASC since 2000 related to teenagers (and pre-teenagers) involving parents or notifying parents when deciding whether or not to terminate their pregnancy – including policy advice, reports, research and correspondence.*

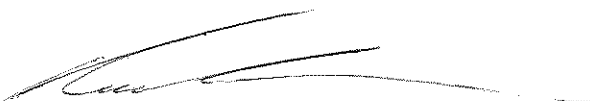
In order to establish whether the ASC holds the information you request, the Ministry of Justice would need to review every document the ASC has sent, received or drafted since 2000 as there is no other way of differentiating these documents from all others. Your request for information is therefore declined under section 18(f) of the Act as the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

2. *The basis with which ASC Chairperson, Dame Linda Holloway's, made the following statement to the Justice and Electoral Committee and any documents supporting this claim: "Most young women do involve their parents if they're deciding whether or not to terminate their pregnancy and it's only a minority who don't."*

The ASC made verbal enquiries to abortion providers in major centres with extensive experience in the abortion field by way of meetings and telephone conferences. The comment made to the Justice and Electoral Committee was based on information received during these discussions.

You have the right, by way of a complaint to an Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act 1982, to seek an investigation and review of this response.

Yours sincerely



Rachael Cole
Secretary
Abortion Supervisory Committee

Tribunals Unit, Ministry of Justice
Private Bag 32001, Panama Street
Wellington 6146, New Zealand
Telephone: (04) 462 6660
Facsimile: (04) 462 6686