

Our Ref: OIA-26-399

16 April 2026

Dear [REDACTED]

Re: Official Information Act request for consultation details on ERO's new school reports

I refer to your email to the Education Review Office dated 18 March 2026 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

- *School Details: The names, educational areas (regions), and Equity Index (EQI) ratings of the 12 schools identified as being part of the consultation for the new ERO school reports.*
- *Parental Participant Demographics: To understand the breadth of the consultation, please provide a summary or aggregated list of the locations (towns/cities) and the occupations of the parents who participated in the consultation process.*
- *Consultation Material: A copy of all documentation, brochures, surveys, or presentation materials provided to schools and parents to facilitate their feedback.*

ERO engaged with schools and parents across Northland, Auckland, Waikato, the Bay of Plenty, Wellington, Marlborough, and Christchurch. The EQI ratings of participating schools ranged from 350 to 525. Engagements included schools in both rural and urban settings and involved a Māori whānau group and a Pacific fono group. Engagements with parents were all done through focus groups, and all engagements were conducted through face-to-face interactions.

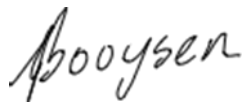
The names of the individual schools are being withheld under section 9(2)(ba)(i) of the OIA, as the engagements were undertaken in confidence. We consider that releasing this information would be likely to undermine schools' willingness to engage openly with ERO in future, which would not be in the public interest. The occupations of the parents were not recorded and so cannot be provided.

Mock up reports were shown to parents and schools to facilitate this engagement. Earlier versions of the drafts show to some parents are being withheld in full under section 9(2)(g)(i) of the OIA, to protect the free and frank exchange of opinions which is necessary for the effective conduct of public affairs. The [final versions of the reports](#), which are the only versions some people received, are available on our website. I am therefore refusing them under section 18(d) of the OIA, as they are already available.

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. We do not publish requesters' personal information.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at <http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz> or freephone 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi,



Shelley Booyesen
Deputy Chief Executive – Review and Improvement Services