

Ref: 238797

22 July 2025

## **Bob McCoskrie**

By email to <a href="mailto:bob@familyfirst.org.nz">bob@familyfirst.org.nz</a>

Tēnā koe Bob

## Response to your request for Official Information

On 25 June 2025, you requested information from Te Kāhui Tika Tangata Human Rights Commission ("the Commission") under the Official Information Act 1982 ("OIA"). We note this is an updated request for largely the same information requested by you on 7 April 2024 for information up until 19 February 2024. We responded to that request in our letter to you dated 6 May 2024 ("May 2024 letter").

Please find the responses under each of your requests 1 – 12 below.

- 1. Number of **complaints and enquiries** that have come into the service since its formation, up until the 3rd anniversary (19 February 2025) Day after Royal Assent. (Yes I'm aware that your service did not come into effect until 6 months after that).
- 2. How many are **enquiries**? What are the nature of the enquiries?

In response to your questions 1-2 seeking the number and nature of enquiries and complaints the Commission has received, as at 19 February 2025, we had received 43 enquiries and complaints relating to conversion practices, broken down as follows:

- Twelve are complaints about possible conversion practices happening to the complainants (no change since 19 February 2024)
- Seven are complaints about possible conversion practices happening to other people (two more since 19 February 2024)
- Four are requests for information (no change since 19 February 2024)
- Fourteen are requests for resources (seven more since 19 February 2024)
- Five are complaints about the legislation (no change since 19 February 2024)
- One is unclear (no change since 19 February 2024).

None of these are enquiries or complaints about non-affirming medical care.

Of the 19 complaints about possible conversion practices, eight were about activities that happened before 18 August 2022 when the CP Act fully came into force, and eleven were about activities after that date.

3. Were any of the enquiries from organisations wanting the law explained?

None of the enquiries referred to in our answer to questions 1-2 were from an organisation requesting the law be explained by the Commission. Please see our May 2024 letter for more information.

4. How many of those are **complaints** about 'conversion therapy' being practiced on them?

As above, and as set out in our May 2024 letter, some enquiries referred to experience of conversion practices, but the enquirer did not lodge or seek to proceed with a formal complaint.

5. How many of those are **complaints** about receiving 'non-affirming medical care'?

There have not been any complaints about receiving non-affirming medical care. However, some enquiries referred to counselling services.

6. How many complaints & enquiries relate to events <u>after</u> the new law coming into effect (implementation of the Act), and how many are historical (pre-law) events?

As set out in our May 2024 letter, not all of the enquiries that included mention of personal experience of conversion practices were clear on the time period this related to.

7. What was the result of the investigations of complaints by the CPRS?

Please see our May 2024 letter.

8. How many complaints / enquiries have been taken to the next level of the complaints process? Please provide either specifics of these complaints, OR any case studies published for education purposes by the Commission. Does this mean OHRP? If yes, does this need to be transferred?

Three complaints alleging unlawful discrimination have progressed to the Commission's dispute resolution team. All of these complaints have closed. As set out in our May 2024 letter, we cannot share the specifics of complaints and dispute resolution outcomes as they are confidential. This includes whether they have applied to the Director of Human Rights Proceedings for legal representation. Complaints are not transferred to OHRP. Rather, complainants may apply to the Director of Human Rights Proceedings for legal representation if their claims are not resolved via the Commission's dispute resolution process.

However, as set out in our May 2024 letter, the Commission may be able to publish case studies for education purposes in the future if appropriate.

9. How many complaints have been referred to the police?

No complaints have been referred to police by the Commission.

10. What is the annual budget for the Conversion Practices Response Service? What commitment has the Government made to future funding of the CPRS?

As set out in our previous letters to you, the Commission received *additional* funds of \$750,000 in 2020/21 and \$1.5 million in 2021/22 to implement changes brought about by the Conversion Practices Prohibition Legislation Act 2022.

The Commission did not receive any further funding beyond the initial \$2.25 million. The temporary establishment team including conversion practices lived experience survivors has been dissolved and its core functions and services have been handed over to existing staff in our Information and Dispute Resolution and Engagement teams.

The Government has not made any specific commitments regarding the future funding of the CPRS.

11. How much Government funding has the Response Service received since its formation (including funding for the formation itself)?

As set out in our previous letters to you, the Commission received additional funds of \$750,000 in 2020/21 and \$1.5 million in 2021/22 to implement changes brought about by the Conversion Practices Prohibition Legislation Act 2022.

The Commission did not receive any further funding beyond the initial \$2.25 million. The temporary establishment team including conversion practices lived experience survivors has been dissolved and its core functions and services have been handed over to existing staff in our Information and Dispute Resolution and Engagement teams.

12. What engagement has there been over the past 3-4 years by the HRC with individuals who made submissions against the new law and who had positive experiences of receiving counselling to deal with unwanted sexuality and gender confusion issues?

As set out in our May 2024 letter, the Commission has not knowingly had any engagement with individuals who made submissions against the new law and who claimed to have had positive experiences of receiving counselling to deal with unwanted sexuality and gender confusion issues. However as set out in our May 2024 letter, some of the enquiries received by the Commission's Conversion Practices Response Service expressed disagreement with and concern about the new law.

## Alternative avenues

If you are unhappy with this response, under the Official Information Act you are entitled to complain to the Ombudsman's Office. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or on freephone 0800 802 602.

If you have any further queries about this response, please feel free to contact me directly.

Nāku noa, nā

## Frances Everard

Kaitohu Matua Ture | Senior Legal Advisor