



## Office of Hon Paula Bennett

MP for Waitakere

Minister for Social Development and Employment

Minister of Youth Affairs

17 JUN 2010

**E-MAILED**

Dear

Thank you for your email to the Prime Minister concerning the abuse suffered by your daughter whilst in the care of Child, Youth and Family. Your email, which I received on 11 May 2010, was referred to me for reply as the Minister for Social Development and Employment.

I was very concerned to read about the experiences your daughter has suffered. It must have been a shock to learn what had happened when you had a right to expect that  had been in a safe environment. I commend you for the obvious love and compassion you have for her and your other children.

You asked about the lack of continuing support from Child, Youth and Family and said that you have contacted the service about further counselling for

I was pleased to hear from Child, Youth and Family that since you wrote, the Family Court has reviewed the situation and decisions have been made that will see you provided with a good deal more help, both practical and financial. This assistance includes:

- that your social worker will watch over progress with updates from school, your doctor and the counsellor
- six additional counselling sessions are to be provided for you
- your social worker will talk to you about which school holiday programmes are best for your children and arrange financial help for these
- she will discuss sports or activities that might suit the children and look at financial help for those activities.

There will be an informal review in three months time to check progress and see how these arrangements are working out and a full review will then take place in six months time.

I sincerely hope that these arrangements will assist you and your daughter to begin to move forward.

Thank you for writing.

Yours sincerely

Hon Paula Bennett  
Minister for Social Development and Employment