

21 February 2025

Charities Services  
PO Box 12138  
Thorndon  
Wellington Central 6144  
[compliance@dia.govt.nz](mailto:compliance@dia.govt.nz)

*Complaint re Destiny Church entities*

Dear Sir/Madam

I write on behalf of my constituents in the Te Atatū electorate pursuant to s. 31 and 32 of the Charities Act 2005 (**the Act**) to formally complain about serious wrongdoing by the following registered charity:

Destiny Church New Zealand Trust    Registration number: CC54240

I believe under s. 31(1)(e) Destiny Church, and potentially, by implication its subsidiaries, has engaged in *serious wrongdoing* and thus there are grounds for removal of the Destiny Church New Zealand Trust from the register of charities.

Destiny Church's other subsidiary charitable trusts are:

Destiny Church Christchurch	Registration number: CC31639
Destiny Church Gisborne	Registration number: CC57284
Destiny Church Hamilton	Registration number: CC29070
Destiny Church Nelson	Registration number: CC29107
Destiny Church Tauranga Trust	Registration number: CC27986
Destiny Church Wellington	Registration number: CC31401
Destiny Church Whakatane Trust	Registration number: CC30992
Destiny School	Registration number: CC30131.

I request that you consider these subsidiaries as also potentially having committed serious wrongdoing by association and support of the actions of the Destiny Church New Zealand Trust.

I draw your attention in particular to s. 4(1) of the Act. I believe Destiny Church has committed *an act, omission, or course of conduct by a person that is oppressive (and) improperly discriminatory*.



In addition under s. 4(1) I believe it has committed *an act, omission, or course of conduct that constitutes an offence punishable by imprisonment for a term of 2 years or more.*

My complaint is based on the following points:

1. On 15 February 2025 followers of Destiny Church at the direction of the head of Destiny Church Brian Tamaki carried out a violent protest action at Te Atatū Peninsula in my electorate which was under s. 4(1) of the Charities Act *oppressive*. It was oppressive in that members of Destiny Church violently forced their way through Auckland Council staff to lay siege to a community event for small children and their parents being held by Auckland Council. Members of the public going about their lawful business at a community centre were subject to violent, bullying and intimidating behaviour.

In the words of the NZ Herald [report](#) Destiny Church followers were “punching, pushing and shoving their way inside”. [RNZ](#) reported about 30 toddlers, young children and adults had to be barricaded inside. The Herald [reports](#) a 16-year-old girl attending a sports event at the community centre suffered concussion after being assaulted during the violent fracas.

The Herald [reports](#) Auckland Mayor Wayne Brown said Destiny Church’s actions were “totally unacceptable”. “While I respect freedom of speech and the right to peaceful protest, to enter a council library facility that is there for all our communities to use and intimidate council staff, volunteers and community members going about their business is completely out of line,” Brown said.

Acting Waitematā District Commander Inspector Simon Walker told the *Herald* police “strongly condemned” the group’s actions and said the protest “crossed a line”.

Auckland Council chief executive Phil Wilson said the protest was “outrageous and unacceptable”.

2. The surge onto Auckland Council property was premediated and planned and those participating in it openly identified as Destiny Church New Zealand members; they wore branded shirts and walked in formation.

3. Police have [said](#) publicly they are actively investigating assault allegations against Destiny Church followers who took part in the action at Te Atatū Peninsula. Destiny Church followers acting on direction from the organisation’s leadership in the words of s. 4(1) of the Act committed *an act, omission, or course of conduct that constitutes an offence punishable by imprisonment for a term of 2 years or more.*

4. The actions of Destiny Church on 15 February 2025 at Te Atatū Peninsula were *improperly discriminatory* in terms of s. 1(4) of the Act. They targeted a reading for children put on by a drag artist because of the artist’s gender identity. The action was part of a pattern of ongoing harassment of members of the Rainbow and LGBTQ+ community. Later that evening Destiny Church followers disrupted the Auckland Pride Parade.

Destiny Church leader Brian Tamaki maliciously and wrongly equated a children's story reading by a drag performer with pornography and child abuse. He told the [Herald](#) (Destiny subsidiary) Man Up was forced to step up and take peaceful action with the Government refusing to "address the excessive spending on borderline pornography and perversion targeting our innocent Kiwi kids". "Today, passionate parents and youth gathered to protest ... an R18+ adult entertainer who is being paid by ratepayers to perform for children. "This is not okay. This is child abuse," he claimed.

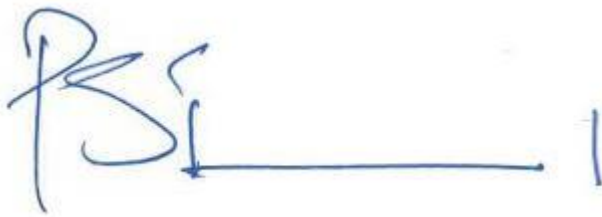
5. Brian Tamaki as the head of Destiny Church directed and approved this action by the organisation's followers. He publicly claimed responsibility. It is evident from the way the action was organised, coordinated and branded that Mr Tamaki's intention was to associate Destiny Church with the activity. The New Zealand Herald [reports](#):

In a sermon the following morning, Tamaki [told his congregation he gave members the green light](#) to storm the library. In a livestream of the sermon, Tamaki said he instructed the church elder: "I want you to storm the library they're in and shut it down." "There might have been some pushing and shoving, but I would smack someone who was trying to pervert my child in a room."

6. Destiny Church has sought and achieved charitable status for constituent parts of its organisation. The conduct that occurred on 15 February 2025 is not conduct that could in anyway be consistent with any charitable purpose. It is (rightly) now the subject of police investigation and has been widely condemned by community leaders and others. If, after this, the Destiny organisation is permitted to retain its charitable status, it would make a mockery of the law.

In light of the above I ask that the listed Destiny Church New Zealand, and potentially all its associated entities, be removed from the register of charities.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'PT', followed by a long horizontal line and a vertical line at the end.

Phil Twyford  
Member of Parliament