



Proactive Release

The following document has been proactively released by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) on behalf of Hon Jan Tinetti, Minister for Child Poverty Reduction:

Proactive Release: Terms of Reference for the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy Ministerial Group

The following document has been included in this release:

- **Title of paper:** Briefing: Terms of Reference for the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy Ministerial Group (DPMC-2022/23-1108)

Some parts of this information release would not be appropriate to release and, if requested, would be withheld under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Where this is the case, the relevant section of the Act that would apply has been identified. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

Key to redaction codes:

- S9(2)(a) protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.



Coversheet

Briefing: Terms of Reference for the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy Ministerial Group

Date:	16/03/2023	Report No:	DPMC-2022/23-1108
		Security Level:	IN CONFIDENCE
		Priority level:	Medium

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Jan Tinetti Minister for Child Poverty Reduction	Agree to recommendations	23/03/23

Name	Position	Telephone	1 st Contact
Clare Ward	Executive Director, Child Wellbeing and Poverty Reduction	s9(2)(a) [REDACTED]	✓
Barbara Annesley	Chief Advisor, Child Wellbeing and Poverty Reduction	s9(2)(a) [REDACTED]	

Minister's Office

Status:

Signed

Withdrawn

Comment for agency

Attachments: Yes

Briefing

Terms of Reference for the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy Ministerial Group

To: Hon Jan Tinetti, Minister for Child Poverty Reduction

Date	16/03/2023	Security Level	IN CONFIDENCE
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Purpose

1. This briefing responds to your recent directive to officials to develop a draft Terms of Reference for the Child and Youth Wellbeing Ministerial Group (the Ministerial Group). It also provides the draft agenda for the first Ministerial Group meeting for 2023.

Recommendations

We recommend you:

1. **agree** to the attached Terms of Reference and present it at the first meeting of the Ministerial Group for confirmation YES NO
2. **note** the attached draft agenda for the first Ministerial Group meeting for 2023
3. **note** we will provide you with an annotated agenda and talking points prior to the Ministerial Group meeting, to support you to chair the meeting and introduce your agenda items, including the Terms of Reference
4. **agree** to proactively release this report, subject to any appropriate withholding of information that would be justified under the Official Information Act 1982. YES NO

s9(2)(a)

Clare Ward
Executive Director
Child Wellbeing and Poverty Reduction

15 March 2023



Hon Jan Tinetti
Minister for Child Poverty Reduction

.....17/03...../2023

Background

2. In a recent briefing on the role and functions of the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy Ministerial Group, officials proposed a number of changes aimed at clarifying and strengthening the Ministerial Group's role and focus [DPMC-2022/23-911 refers]. These changes are intended to give effect to your preferences as Chair of the group (as indicated at your meeting with officials on 8 February) and the recommendations of the recent statutory review of the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy (the Strategy). You agreed to the proposed changes, and directed officials to develop a draft Terms of Reference for the Ministerial Group.

A draft Terms of Reference is attached for your approval

3. A draft Terms of Reference is provided in **Appendix A** for your consideration and approval. It emphasises the strategic, system-level and cross-portfolio oversight role that the Ministerial Group plays with respect to the Strategy. Other key matters addressed in the Terms of Reference are:
 - the Ministerial portfolios represented on the group
 - the frequency of meetings and secretariat support arrangements
 - the creation of regular opportunities for the National Iwi Chairs Forum Pou Tangata Co-Chairs to attend Ministerial Group meetings (noting that the frequency of this attendance will be discussed at your introductory meeting with the Pou Tangata Co-Chairs on 30 March 2023)
 - provision for external stakeholders to be invited to attend Ministerial Group meetings, as appropriate, to support greater collective ownership and diversity of voices.

A draft agenda for the first Ministerial Group meeting for 2023 is attached

4. Subject to your approval of the Terms of Reference, we propose that you present it to the newly convened Ministerial Group for confirmation.
5. Your office is currently liaising with other Ministers' offices to schedule the first meeting for the year. Timing of the meeting is dependent on the availability of key Ministers, particularly those with agenda items.
6. A copy of the proposed agenda is provided in **Appendix B** for your information. Item 4 of the proposed agenda is an update on the Child Wellbeing Package for Budget 2023. Your office is currently liaising with the Minister of Finance's office to confirm this item.

Next steps

7. Following confirmation of the agenda and timing of the meeting, we will provide you with an annotated agenda and talking points to support you in your role as Chair, and to introduce and speak to the agenda items you are leading.
8. We are also working with agencies and your office to establish an indicative forward agenda for the remainder of the year. In line with our previous advice, we are seeking to ensure that each meeting agenda includes a mix of items focused on the policy priorities under the Strategy, monitoring reports, and emerging, strategic and system-level issues.
9. We will confirm the forward agenda following the discussion of the draft Terms of Reference at the first Ministerial Group meeting of the year, to ensure that it reflects the agreed direction for the Ministerial Group.

Attachments:	Title
Appendix A:	Draft Terms of Reference for the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy Ministers Group
Appendix B:	Draft agenda for the first Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy Ministers Group for 2023

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Appendix A

(DRAFT) Terms of Reference for the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy Ministerial Group

Context

The Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy

Part 1 of the Children's Act 2014 (as amended in 2018) requires the adoption, publication, and annual reporting on a strategy to address improving the wellbeing of all children. The Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy was released in August 2019 and sets out six wellbeing outcome areas and nine guiding principles that support the achievement of the vision of New Zealand as 'the best place in the world for children and young people'. A review of the Strategy (August 2022) recommended focusing on a small number of priority policy areas, and strengthening five key enablers (including effective governance) that support implementation of the Strategy.

The Child Poverty Reduction Act

The Child Poverty Reduction Act 2018 establishes a framework for enduring political action and accountability for reducing child poverty, including requirements to set, measure and report against child poverty reduction targets. The Government's actions to achieve these targets are included in the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy as a key priority.

The Oranga Tamariki Action Plan

The Children's Act 2014 specifies a requirement for chief executives of the children's agencies¹ to develop an action plan to identify how they will work together to achieve the Strategy's outcomes and improve wellbeing for core populations of interest to Oranga Tamariki. The first Oranga Tamariki Action Plan was published in July 2022.

Role and Purpose of the Ministerial Group

The purpose of the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy Ministerial Group is to provide collective leadership and the authorising environment for Ministers and agencies to work together, and with other partners, to deliver on the Strategy's vision and outcomes. The Ministerial Group is referenced in the Cooperation Agreement between the New Zealand Labour Party and the Green Party of Aotearoa New Zealand (53rd Parliament), dated October 2020.

Specific roles of the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy Ministerial Group are to:

- oversee the implementation of the Strategy, with a focus on the four child and youth wellbeing policy priorities² and implementation of the recommendations arising from the

¹ The Children's Agencies are: Oranga Tamariki, Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Justice, and the New Zealand Police.

² The four policy priorities are: reducing child poverty and mitigating the impacts of socio-economic disadvantage; supporting child and whānau wellbeing in the first 1000 days; addressing racism, discrimination and stigma; and enhancing child and youth mental wellbeing.

2022 review of the Strategy

- oversee and monitor implementation of the Oranga Tamariki Action Plan (OTAP)
- provide direction on cross-portfolio policies, initiatives, and resource allocation needs and proposals
- commission members of the Ministerial Group and/or the Social Wellbeing Board to provide follow-up advice on any matters the Group considers require further action or consideration
- provide a Ministerial-level mechanism to engage with iwi/Māori on the Strategy, to support increased iwi/Māori voice and representation in implementing the Strategy
- make decisions on any proposed changes to core aspects of the Strategy, including (but not limited to) policy priorities, outcome areas, the OTAP, the measurement framework, and governance arrangements.

The Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy Ministerial Group is at the core of the governance arrangements for the Strategy and OTAP. Chief executive-level governance is provided by the Social Wellbeing Board (SWB). Individual Ministers and government agencies will continue to be responsible for the delivery of portfolio-specific advice and actions.

Matters to be considered by the Ministerial Group

Without limiting the work of the Ministerial Group, matters that are considered by the group will primarily be strategic, system-level or cross-portfolio in nature. Such matters include those that:

- give the Ministerial Group the information they need to provide leadership and strategic oversight of the Strategy, the four policy priorities, five enablers³, and the OTAP
- require agreement to strategic direction-setting or significant changes to key aspects of the Strategy (eg, changes to content or implementation approach)
- would benefit from mutual agreement of members of the Ministerial Group before being progressed further (eg, cross-portfolio matters that will be submitted to Cabinet for consideration)
- require Ministerial leadership or intervention to address gaps, blockages, or challenges in implementing key policies and actions under the Strategy.

Membership of the Ministerial Group

The Ministerial Group is chaired by the Minister for Child Poverty Reduction, who is also designated the responsible Minister for the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy. Other Ministerial portfolios represented on the Ministerial Group are as follows:

Portfolio
Child Poverty Reduction (Chair)
Social Development and Employment
Children

³ The five enablers identified through the review of the Strategy are: governance arrangements; collective ownership; enabling whānau-centred, community-led approaches; measurement monitoring and reporting; and integrating te ao Māori concepts of wellbeing

Education
Health
Police
Justice
Whānau Ora
Prevention of Family and Sexual Violence
Māori Development
Disability Issues
Diversity, Inclusion and Ethnic Communities
Pacific Peoples
Youth

Involvement and interactions with other Ministers and ad-hoc Ministerial Groups

Attendance of other Ministers and officials at Ministerial Group meetings may be required in order to provide information and discuss progress or proposals in portfolio areas outside the core membership of the group.

Common membership between this and other Ministerial Groups (eg, the Ministerial Oversight Group for the National Action Plan Against Racism, Family Violence and Sexual Violence Ministers, and the Youth Engagement Ministerial Group) will help ensure key linkages and any overlapping or related interests are identified. Officials will ensure matters are considered by the appropriate Ministerial governance group and minimise the potential for 'double-handling'.

Engagement with iwi/Māori and other partners

Tamariki and rangatahi Māori are identified as a priority group for the Strategy and the OTAP. It is important that the Crown-Māori Te Tiriti relationship is reflected in the governance and implementation of the Strategy, by ensuring that there are enduring mechanisms in place to build relationships and facilitate engagement and collaboration between the Crown and iwi/Māori.

The Co-Chairs of the Pou Tangata⁴ of the National Iwi Chairs Forum (NICF) will be invited to attend the Ministerial Group meeting [xx - to be confirmed] times per annum. Engagement between the Pou Tangata Co-Chairs and the Ministerial Group is consistent with the rangatira to rangitira relationship that is specified in the Statement of Engagement between the Crown and the National Iwi Chairs Forum. The specific focus of discussion will be determined by mutual agreement between the Chair of the Ministerial Group and the Pou Tangata Co-Chairs.

Officials will work with the Chair of the Ministerial Group to identify opportunities to invite external partners to attend meetings for agenda items to which they can bring valuable insights and perspectives. This will facilitate greater collective ownership and diversity of voices in the implementation and monitoring of the Strategy.

⁴ Pou Tangata (social development) is one of five NICF Pou and is co-chaired by Dame Rangimarie Naida Glavish and Rahui Papa. Pou Tangata has six priorities (Skills and Employment, Mātauranga, Data, Oranga Tamariki, Te Ora o Te Whānau, and Hauora). Pou Tangata is interested in supporting implementation of the Strategy as a key connector across these priorities.

Meetings and Secretariat

The Ministerial Group will meet every two months.

The Secretary for Children will attend the Ministerial Group as the Social Wellbeing Board representative. Other senior agency officials will attend meetings as appropriate.

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (Child Wellbeing and Poverty Reduction Group) will support the Chair of the Ministerial Group by:

- developing the forward agenda of items for discussion, confirming the agenda prior to each meeting, and liaising with those responsible for agenda items
- liaising with the Pou Tangata Lead and Technical Advisors regarding the attendance of the Pou Tangata Co-Chairs at Ministerial Group meetings, and topics for discussion
- playing a coordinating role in updating monitoring information
- liaising with the office of the Minister for Child Poverty Reduction to confirm and communicate decisions and action points arising from each meeting.

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APPENDIX B

DRAFT AGENDA FOR FIRST CHILD AND YOUTH WELLBEING STRATEGY MINISTERIAL GROUP MEETING FOR 2023 (DATE TO BE CONFIRMED)

Category	Item	Lead Minister	Item type / Decision required	Time allocation	External attendee
General	1. Terms of Reference for CYWS Ministerial Group	Minister for Child Poverty Reduction (as Chair)	Confirm Terms of Reference.	10 minutes	No
Monitoring / Reporting	2. Child and Youth Wellbeing Annual Report and Stats NZ Child Poverty Data Release	Minister for Child Poverty Reduction	Information / noting Short oral item with update on release of key monitoring information (Stats NZ Poverty Data release on 23 March and CYWS Annual Report on 6 April).	5 minutes	No
	3. Oranga Tamariki Action Plan six-monthly implementation report	Minister for Children	Noting contents of six-monthly implementation report.	10 minutes	No
Emerging, strategic, system issues	4. Child Wellbeing Budget 2023 Package To be confirmed with Minister of Finance's office	Minister of Finance	Information / noting Update Ministers on likely package of initiatives under Objective 5 of Budget Strategy.	10 minutes	No
	5. UN Examination of NZ's sixth periodic report to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child	Minister for Children	Information / noting / engaging with external stakeholder Information to Ministers, and discussion on the recent UN examination and recommendations.	25 minutes	Children's Convention Monitoring Group representative(s)