

Released under the
Official Information Act 1982

Ministry for Women's Weekly Report to the Minister for Women

As at 20 December 2017

Official Information Act 1982

Part 1: Current priority outcome areas

Women's skills, employment, and income

Launch of 2017 Child Poverty Monitor report

On 20 December we attended the launch of the 2017 Child Poverty Monitor report. This report is produced through a partnership between the Office of the Children's Commissioner, the University of Otago, and the JR McKenzie Trust. The data indicates a slight decrease in the number of children living in significant material hardship, but it is too early to say that this is a trend. There are also two limitations to these findings: the survey on which this part of the report is based is 18 months old, and it only includes people living in "households". It excludes people who living in motels, refuges, cars, and on marae.

A significant proportion of children living in poverty are in sole-parent families, most of which are mother-led. Improving conditions for children will also mean improving conditions for their parents, especially mothers. We have recently undertaken interviews with mothers at risk of poor employment outcomes, and have insights into their views. We will provide you with a copy in the new year.

Population agencies workshop: System Influence through Data

We hosted a workshop with the system leaders on 'System Influence through Data'. Attendees included Ministry for Pacific Peoples and Te Puni Kōkiri. The workshop started from the assumption that data and data systems can support effective approaches for Māori, Pacific peoples and women. A draft set of recommendations will be presented to our Chief Executives.

Our long term NEET (not in employment, education or training) project is an example of how population agencies can use data to influence service providers. The project used the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI) to understand more about NEET women and why women have higher rates of being NEET. The project established that male and female NEETs have different characteristics: one third of female NEETs are caregiving but the proportion of male NEETs who are caregiving is very small. It also established a relationship between living in areas of deprivation, qualification level, caregiving, having a driver's licence, and being NEET long term. We disseminated these insights to policy analysts and service providers.

He Poutama Rangatahi/Youth Employment Pathways

We participated in a cross agency evaluation group for He Poutama Rangatahi which is developing methodology to assess the effectiveness of regional employment responses for young people. We maintain a proactive approach to ensure positive outcomes for young women are achieved. The Ministry contributes our research to the group including international information on what is effective for mothers and parents, findings from our IDI research, and methodological support. Currently the group is testing the practicality of a number of approaches so that they may be applied to projects that secure funding from He Poutama Rangatahi.

Understanding private sector gender pay gap initiatives

The Ministry met with Lion NZ to understand the actions it has taken to measure and close its gender pay gap. Lion NZ was recognised at the 2017 YWCA Equal Pay Awards for taking action to close its 3.2 percent gender pay gap (in 'like for like' roles) within a year. Insights from this meeting will be used in our work in assisting private sector organisations to close their gender pay gaps.

Diversity and Inclusion Network

We attended the Diversity and Inclusion Network Meeting (coordinated by SSC) which focused on the work done by MBIE in migrant settlement support and integration, known as the Welcoming Communities programme. Senior staff from New Zealand Police also discussed work with ethnic communities to create pathways for diverse recruits, including women and refugee police officers.

We are looking towards linking with the Welcoming Communities programme in our work.

Women's safety from violence

Evaluation of the Rotorua Family Harm Project pilot

In early 2017, we partnered with Rotorua Police to evaluate the Rotorua Family Harm Project (RFHP). This model brings Police together with relevant service providers to ensure families experiencing violence receive the support they need.

The overall aims of the evaluation are to:

- Evaluate the implementation and early outcomes of RFHP
- Evaluate the success of the collective impact approach (including barriers and enablers)
- Identify any early improvements required to help the model operate well.

This research is part of building our evidence base about how we can respond to and prevent domestic violence. We will report back with findings in early 2018, subject to availability of expert peer-review.

International commitments on the status of women

National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security Annual Report 2015-2016

On 19 December, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) released the Annual Report on the National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security for the 2015-2016 period. It outlines specific actions New Zealand has undertaken to implement the National Action Plan (NAP), for example, women, peace and security and UNSCR 1325 are being incorporated as an integral part of the planning and design for New Zealand Aid Programme support for policing in the Solomon Islands.

New Zealand adopted the NAP for the Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325) on Women, Peace and Security 2015 – 2019 in October 2015. This followed 18 months of development and consultation on the NAP by government agencies with input from a range of civil society representatives. The NAP details how New Zealand will implement the United Nations Security Council resolutions on women, peace and security for the period 2015 - 2019. MFAT, New Zealand Police and the New Zealand Defence Force are the lead agencies for the implementation of the NAP, and we maintain an advisory role.

We will circulate the Annual Report to the International Women's Caucus.

Women in leadership

Nominations service update

We have provided you with an acknowledgement letter to the Minister of Finance, in response to his request for nominations of candidates for the Government Superannuation Appeals Board, the Government Superannuation Fund Authority and the Nominating Committee for the Guardians of New Zealand Superannuation. We are preparing advice for your office for 18 January 2018.

Our meeting with Treasury has resulted in a request for nominations as part of the Minister for State Owned Enterprises and Minister of Finance considering positions on eight of the SOE boards: Airways, Christchurch International Airport, Kordia, Landcorp Farming, MetService, New Zealand Post, Quotable Value and Transpower. We will be providing nominations to your office by 19 January 2018.

By the end of January, we will provide nominations for the RCW Eureka! Trust. The Sir Paul Callaghan Eureka! Awards were initiated to increase young New Zealanders' interest in STEM subjects.

Other matters

Suffrage 125

The Governor-General, Rt Hon Dame Patsy Reddy, has expressed interest in hosting the launch of the Suffrage 125 celebrations at Government House in Wellington on 7 March 2018. She is interested in inviting a wide range of people representing New Zealand’s diverse cultures. We are working with the Governor-General’s office and we will provide advice on this to you in January 2018.

The Suffrage 125 symbol has been completed. This symbol will be used to identify and link Suffrage 125 events throughout New Zealand. It will be able to be downloaded through the Suffrage 125 website pages from mid-January 2018.

The design for the Suffrage 125 symbol draws on historical colours and icons adopted by women’s suffrage petitioners, and presents them in a contemporary form.

Violet represented dignity and self-respect and the white camellia was worn by people supporting women’s right to vote in New Zealand.

The ‘125’ contains a koru as a link to our distinct New Zealand culture. The phrase Whakatū Wāhine represents women — and all people — standing for the rights of women. It was central to the Suffrage Centenary celebrations in 1993 and remains relevant today as we continue to take a stand for gender equality. The Ministry for Women holds the rights for the Suffrage 125 symbol and reserves the right to determine its appropriate use.



Part 2: Operational matters

Nil

Part 3: Upcoming briefings and reports

| Subject | Log number | Date due | Status |
|--|---------------|------------------|-------------|
| Nominees for Independent Working Group for the Upper North Island Ports Strategy | MW 17-18 0143 | 20 December 2017 | Sent |
| [REDACTED] | MW 17-18 0132 | 20 December 2017 | Sent |
| Draft programme for Minister’s attendance at CSW62 | MW 17-18 0138 | 21 December 2017 | In sign-out |
| Report on experiences of mothers at risk of poor employment outcomes | MW 17-18 0139 | 21 December 2017 | In progress |
| Increasing women’s participation on private sector boards | MW 17-18 0142 | 21 December 2017 | In sign-out |

9(2)(f)(iv) which relates to the maintenance of constitutional convention protecting the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers and officials

Part 4: Recent correspondence

New ministerial correspondence

Nil

Correspondence between Ministers

Nil

Minister and Ministry-initiated correspondence

Nil

New Parliamentary Questions

Nil

New OIA/Ombudsman/Privacy Act requests to the Ministry

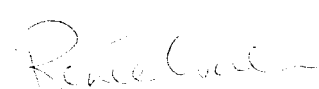
Nil

Part 5: Cabinet papers consulted on

Nil

Part 6: Upcoming publications and events in the next three months

| Publication/event | Date | Agency lead |
|--|------------------------|---|
| Survey/engagement – trialling an approach to get women’s voices on a particular topic | January (tbc) | Ministry for Women and Ministry of Health |
| Pānui newsletter | January | Ministry for Women |
| Release on Ministry website of gender pay gap background information | January | Ministry for Women |
| Working with SUPERdiverse Women on interviews of its members | January/February | Ministry for Women (in partnership with SUPERdiverse WOMEN) |
| Release of rapid literature review on effective family violence services for women, particularly Māori women | January/February (tbc) | Ministry for Women |
| Commissioned research led by AUT and Motu (Sin and Pacheco) on the long-term economic effect of having children, especially relating to the gender pay gap | February (tbc) | Ministry for Women |



Renee Graham
Chief Executive

Hon Julie Anne Genter
Minister for Women

Date: