

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

As at 1 November 2017

Introduction

On 27 October we had our initial meet and greet with you since your appointment as the Minister for Women. The meeting focused on the Ministry's role and function, and how we can support you as our Minister. During this discussion you requested an overview of the Ministry's work programme and any supporting information.

We will provide your office with an overview of our current key priorities, work programme and a snapshot of our achievements over the last three months, by 13 November.

We look forward to working with you and your office in future.

Purpose

The purpose of the Weekly Report is to keep you informed on your priority outcome areas of work, upcoming briefings and reports, correspondence and publications. This report will be provided to your office every Thursday.

Part 1: Current priority outcome areas

Women's skills, employment, and income

National Advisory Council on the Employment of Women (NACEW) meeting

NACEW next meet on 14 November and would like to meet with you if you are available. The meeting will focus on identifying key issues for women where NACEW might provide advice to you to gain maximum impact. This meeting provides you an opportunity to meet and greet NACEW, get a feel for how they operate, and have a free and frank discussion about any key changes or priorities.

Traci Houpapa (Chair) would like to meet prior to 14 November to discuss how you would like NACEW to operate in their advisory capacity and your priority areas.

Women in Trades

An area we have focused on is encouraging women and girls to enter non-traditional work. This helps to raise income and reduce pay gaps.

In September we part-sponsored a Women in Trades (WiT) Conference aimed at attracting and inspiring young women, most of whom are still at school, to consider training in a trade. Women attended were shown around a working construction site and heard from other women who have successful careers in the industry. This model has been successful and making it available throughout the country would have significant benefits.

This year the organising committee developed a WiT brand and sponsorship processes. At its meeting this week, the organising committee identified that it would like to move to implement a governance /board structure for WiT that will enable the WiT brand and processes to be available across the country through its website. We have agreed to support this change process for the organising committee by providing papers about the role of governance and boards, for consideration at its November meeting.

Women's representation in leadership

Women's representation on private sector boards

We will provide you with a briefing on women's representation on private sector boards in New Zealand by 9 November 2017. The briefing will include information on women's representation on boards internationally, the use of quotas in international jurisdictions to increase women's board representation, and other options such as the use of voluntary targets, corporate governance codes and diversity reporting.

Nominations Service

There was a previous target of State Sector boards being made up of 45% women. We have been monitoring the progress against this goal and will report back to you in the coming weeks with progress and options for further work.

Last week the Nominations Service received one board request:

- Women's Health Action (non-APH)

We provided nominations for seven board requests, nominating a total of 22 women:

- Victoria University of Wellington (4 candidates)
- University of Otago (3 candidates)
- Auckland University of Technology (3 candidates)
- Weltec / Whitireia Polytechnic Combined Council (3 candidates)
- Te Wānanga o Aoteroa Council (3 candidates)
- University of Waikato (2 candidates)
- Women's Health Action (non-APH, 4 candidates)

One previous board request, for the board of Expressions Whirinaki Arts and Entertainment Centre (non-APH) is ongoing.

International commitments on the status of women

World Economic Forum's 2017 Global Gender Gap Report

The 2017 edition of the *Global Gender Gap Report* has been released. The Report is produced annually by the World Economic Forum, an independent not-for-profit international organisation. As in previous years, 2017 Report highlights where New Zealand is doing well and identifies areas where there is room for improvement. This year we have maintained our ranking of 9th place, consistent with 2016. We have provided your office with a media release, and will provide a full briefing shortly.

Meeting with Taiwanese delegation

We regularly meet with international delegations. For some meetings, visiting delegations approach us directly, and on other occasions we are invited to attend by MFAT or another agency.

On 31 October we met with the Section Chief of the Department of General Planning, Ministry of Labor of Taiwan, and a departmental official, accompanied by MBIE officials. We presented to the delegation on: our APEC engagement, our work in economic independence including gender pay gap research, initiatives in the private and public sectors, NACEW's return to work IT pilot scheme, and their research on women's experiences in the workforce, and the work on Māori and Pasifika women in trades training.

Other matters

Netsafe releases new research on sexting

Netsafe has released its early findings on young people and sexting. In December, Netsafe will release their full research findings about attitudes to nude images including gender and cultural differences. A key message is that many young people feel pressured to share intimate images however only a minority of them are engaging in this behaviour.

Early findings include: almost one in five teenagers have been asked for nude or nearly nude images in the last year, but only four percent of young people have shared pictures of themselves; nearly 40 percent of respondents knew someone who had shared an image and that 30 percent think there is peer pressure to engage in this behaviour.

This work is related to the Digital Harm research; we will shortly brief you on the Digital Harm research, and recommendations for its launch.

Meeting with KidsCan about sanitary items

We receive a considerable amount of correspondence regarding the high cost of sanitary items. Around the country girls are missing out on education and their health is being put at risk as they can't afford these items. KidsCan is a charity, partially funded by MSD, which supports disadvantaged children. [REDACTED] This week we met with Julie Chapman, CEO and founder of KidsCan. KidsCan have the capacity to increase supply and distribution of sanitary items and to start to include menstrual cups, which is an economically and environmentally friendly option. There may be an opportunity for us to participate in the budget bid conversation and advocate for New Zealand girls. We will keep you updated with relevant developments.

Part 2: Operational matters

Annual Report 2017

This week we published our *Annual Report 2017* online, as required under the Public Finance Act 1989. The hard copy of the Annual Report will be presented to Parliament once the House is sitting again. We will liaise with your office to do this.

Our Annual Report details our achievements and financial performance for the 2016/17 financial year. If you have any questions or would like further information we will work with your office to ensure you are supported.

Part 3: Upcoming briefings and reports

Subject	Log number	Date due	Status
New Zealand Women in sport	MW 17-18 0076	1 November 2017	Sent
Talking points for Q + A, 5 November	MW 17-18 0079	2 November 2017	Sent
Global Gender Index 2017	MW 17-18 0081	2 November 2017	In progress
Gender pay gap and pay equity	MW 17-18 0077	3 November 2017	In sign out
Pay transparency	MW 17-18 0078	3 November 2017	In sign out
Briefing on the International Women's Caucus	MW 17-18 0075	3 November 2017	In sign out
Women's representation in private sector leadership	MW 17-18 0080	9 November 2017	In progress
Briefing on potential nominees for Queen's Birthday Honours	MW 17-18 0063	10 November 2017	In sign out
Work programme and snapshot of key achievements	MW 17-18 0068	13 November 2017	In progress
Launch of Digital Harm research	MW 17-18 0073	13 November 2017	In sign out

2018 International Engagements	MW 17-18 0069	30 November 2017	In progress
Briefing on Suffrage 125: Proposed programme	MW 17-18 0008	December 2017 (tbc)	In progress

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

Committee/Date	Title of paper	Department	Comments
TBC	Government Response to the Māori Affairs Committee Inquiry into whānau access to and management of tūpākaku	Ministry of Justice	Overall we support the direction of the paper and do not have substantive comments. We support the proposed steps to make the coronial process easier for families and whānau.

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

Publication/event	Date	Agency lead
Pānui newsletter	November	Ministry for Women
Release of rapid literature review on effective family violence services for women, particularly Māori women	November (tbc)	Ministry for Women
Survey/engagement – trialling an approach to get women's voices on a particular topic	November (tbc)	Ministry for Women and Ministry of Health

Publication/event	Date	Agency lead
Publication/launch of the digital harm research: <i>'Insights into digital harm: The online lives of New Zealand girls and boys'</i>	December (tbc)	Netsafe and Ministry for Women
Release on Ministry website of gender pay gap tools and more case studies	December (tbc)	Ministry for Women
Pānui newsletter	December	Ministry for Women
Diverse profiles: launch of up to five profiles of diverse women	December	Ministry for Women (in partnership with SUPERdiverse 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 2018 (tbc)	Ministry for Women

Renee Graham

Renee Graham
Chief Executive

Hon Julie Anne Genter
Minister for Women

Date:

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