

Appendix Two: Future Focus Areas in the Monitor's Initial Report

1. Once the NCS Regulations have agreed definitions, the Monitor will ask for each agency's self-assessments against the definitions.	The Monitor has received Oranga Tamariki definitions for part one of the National Care Standards and Related Matters Regulations (2018). This work is ongoing for parts two to five. The Monitor will ask for each of the agency's self-assessments against the definitions when this work has been completed and will use this information to inform future planning and development of the assessment framework.
2. The work on the updated policies and tools by Oranga Tamariki was to be completed by October 2019 and will be provided to the Monitor in time for the June 2020 report.	The Monitor received links to the updated policies, procedures and tools as part of the second cycle reporting requirements. The policy and procedure updates that have been completed are now published on the Oranga Tamariki website and have been detailed in this report in Question One. Oranga Tamariki also provided the Monitor with details on guidelines, policies and tools that are still a work in progress. The Monitor will follow up with these in the next reporting cycle.
3. Oranga Tamariki to clarify what constitutes a report of concern of abuse or neglect of a child in care.	Oranga Tamariki engaged with Open Home Foundation, Dingwall Trust and Barnardos. The discussions included clarity around the different roles and responsibilities of both Oranga Tamariki and the other agencies in this area of work. Both Open Home Foundation and Barnardos have stated that they are clear in their understanding of what constitutes an allegation of abuse or neglect of a child in care. Dingwall Trust would appreciate further discussion with Oranga Tamariki given that they have had a recent change in personnel. Oranga Tamariki intend to continue this work, by extending the discussion to include all partners and iwi organisations who provide for shared care arrangements.
4. Results from the repeated self-assessment being completed by Oranga Tamariki in Jan–March 2020 will be required and included in the Monitor's June 2020 report.	<p>The Monitor has not received this information.</p> <p>The information has been delayed by the COVID-19 response. Information will be included in the Monitor's next report.</p>

<p>5. Quality Practice Tool and site Practice Checks reporting will be required from Oranga Tamariki and will be included in the Monitor's June 2020 report.</p>	<p>The Monitor has not received this information.</p> <p>The information has been delayed by the COVID-19 response. Information will be included in the Monitor's next report.</p>
<p>6. The Monitor will be seeking information on those reports of concern that are entered on the case management system, that are genuine reports of alleged abuse and do not have a finding.</p>	<p>Oranga Tamariki has provided high-level data to the Monitor and has informed the Monitor it will begin assuring these decisions from March 2020. Information on this assurance process will be included in the Monitor's November 2020 report.</p>
<p>7. Case validation and analysis of raw data will be required to further understand compliance with the NCS Regulations for the next report.</p>	<p>Oranga Tamariki did not provide the raw data requested for this report and is working with the Monitor on what it will provide for the November 2020 report.</p> <p>Open Home Foundation provided raw data to the Monitor, regarding regulation 69. Information has been used by the Monitor to inform the data and analysis that has been completed for the report.</p> <p>Barnardos and Dingwall Trust reported they did not receive any allegations of risk of harm caused by abuse or neglect in this reporting period.</p>
<p>8. With specific regard to tamariki Māori, one area that was not strong for any agency was information on supports that could be offered when an allegation is made, such as cultural supports. This is something the Monitor did not request or focus on and is likely to be included in the next information request.</p>	<p>All the agencies provided the Monitor with detailed updates, which have been summarised in Question Three.</p>
<p>9. Evidence of assurance processes in practice will be required for the Monitor's June 2020 report.</p>	<p>The Monitor received detail regarding assurance processes from all the agencies. This information has been detailed in Question Two of the report.</p>

<p>10. Evidence of improvement processes and progress will be required for the Monitor's June 2020 report.</p>	<p>The Monitor has not received this information from Oranga Tamariki.</p> <p>The information was delayed by the COVID-19 response. This will be followed up in the Monitor's next report.</p>
<p>11. With an initial baseline now established through this report, the Monitor will be reviewing its initial assessment framework with a view to seeking more targeted responses that will enable it to wholly fulfil its monitoring function.</p>	<p>The Monitor has refined the initial assessment framework. Questions that were asked in the Phase Two – Second Cycle Reporting Requirements focused on updates to policy, procedure, practice and tools.</p> <p>The Monitor will continue to refine the process for the November 2020 report, which will be the final report with a concentrated view of the three regulations. Future reporting will refer to compliance against all the National Care Standards and Related Matters Regulations (2018).</p>
<p>12. The Monitor will expect to see analysis and targeted or national interventions from Oranga Tamariki that respond to the trend information from the reporting from the SoCiC Unit.</p>	<p>Oranga Tamariki reported that information from the data was used to inform service development discussions that will influence targeted interventions for working with young people who have experienced sexual violence; this includes support, advice and developing additional services for young people.</p> <p>It also reported learnings from the SoCiC Unit data has focused on caregiver supports and is informing the co-design of future models of whānau care in partnership with iwi and Māori organisations.</p>
<p>13. To prepare for the June 2020 report, the Monitor will be asking for case examples to validate information and will seek to engage with a small number of those involved in the casework to triangulate the information and further inform compliance with the NCS Regulations as well as look for those continuous learning opportunities.</p>	<p>Due to the Government's response to COVID-19, the Monitor delayed its validation and fieldwork. Where possible, validation was sought through digital means.</p> <p>The Monitor will validate the information provided by the agencies through engagement with agency staff and communities involved in the Oranga Tamariki system. A pilot validation and fieldwork programme has been developed and will be trialled when it is appropriate to do so.</p>