

## Strengthening oversight of the Oranga Tamariki System

### Regional Hui

Tēnā koutou katoa,

He mihi nui tēnei i roto i ngā āhuetanga o te wā.

#### Introducing the Independent Children's Monitor

The Independent Children's Monitor, established on 1 July 2019, is set up to strengthen the monitoring of the Oranga Tamariki system, starting with the Oranga Tamariki (National Care Standards and Related Matters) Regulations 2018. This is to ensure our tamariki and rangatahi are receiving the care and support they need to enable them to reach their potential.

The Office of the Children's Commissioner and Office of the Ombudsman already have statutory accountabilities in this space, carrying out a number of complaint and monitoring activities.

#### Government is strengthening independent oversight of the Oranga Tamariki system by:

- appointing the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) to establish a stronger independent monitoring function for the Oranga Tamariki system
- enhancing the Ombudsman's complaints oversight and investigations function for the Oranga Tamariki system;
- strengthening the resourcing of the Office of the Children's Commissioner to carry out advocacy for New Zealand children and young people

#### Purpose of hui

During January, February and March 2020 the Independent Children's Monitor will be travelling to a city near you.

The purpose of the hui is to introduce the Independent Children's Monitor, share decisions already taken and work completed so far and to understand how those who work in the sector and those who come into the contact with the Oranga Tamariki system would like to engage in this mahi in the future. This includes an overview from the agencies involved in this work (the Independent Children's Monitor, the Office of the Children's Commissioner and the Office of the Ombudsman). There will be opportunities for you to ask questions and share your thoughts.

Those who will benefit the most from attendance are providers and community networks, those in senior roles from government agencies, local Iwi and children's professionals.

Part of the Monitor's broader engagement plan is to arrange future engagement with caregivers, providers, tamariki, rangatahi and whānau and those professionals at the front line at a later date in 2020.



## Who will benefit most from attending hui?

While anyone is welcome to attend, the people that will benefit the most from coming along are government agencies, children's professionals, local Iwi and providers. Part of our broader engagement plan is to arrange future engagement with caregivers, providers, tamariki, rangatahi and whānau for a later date in 2020.

## Dates and locations

Date	City / Town	Date	City / Town
22 January	Invercargill	20 February	Porirua
23 January	Christchurch	25 February	Gisborne
24 January	Dunedin	26 February	Havelock North
30 January	Nelson	2 March	Whanganui
31 January	Blenheim	3 March	New Plymouth
11 February	Hokitika	5 March	West Auckland
13 February	Palmerston North	6 March	South Auckland
17 February	Rotorua	11 March	Kaitia
18 February	Hamilton	12 March	Whangarei
		16 March	Lower Hutt <b>*new</b>

[To register, please click here](#) or visit [www.icm.org.nz](http://www.icm.org.nz). You can register under the tab "What the Monitor's doing" "Regional Hui".

Please note, some venues have limited capacity so please make sure you register so you don't miss out.

## What is the Independent Children's Monitor currently monitoring?

The Independent Children's Monitor is monitoring regulations 69 and 85 of the National Care Standards Regulations. Regulations 69 and 85 are about reports to Oranga Tamariki of alleged abuse or neglect of rangatahi and tamariki in care.

The Monitor is currently monitoring four agencies who have custody; Oranga Tamariki, Open Home, Dingwall Trust and Barnardos. The Monitor's first report will be published in early 2020.

By the end of 2020, the Monitor will be ready to begin monitoring all the [National Care Standards Regulations](#). Please [subscribe to updates](#) if you would like to receive future information and reports from the Monitor.

Ngā manaakitanga

