

11<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Hon Kevin Davis  
Private Bag 18041  
Parliament Buildings  
Wellington 6160

By email:k.davis@ministers.govt.nz

Tēnā koe Minister Davis,

Thank you for your letter received on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2022. Barnardos welcomes the Annual Report of the Independent Children's Monitor – *Experiences in care in Aotearoa: Agency Compliance with the National Care Standards and Related Matters Regulations*, covering the period of 1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022, and the opportunity to provide comment on its findings.

We are appreciative of the continued positive and constructive engagement we experience with the Independent Children's Monitor, as are our clients and kaimahi who have participated in the review process. We have had the opportunity to review drafts of the report that relate specifically to our organisation and are pleased to see the experience of our rangatahi and caregivers reflected in the final version. As such, there are no further comments we wish to make about the report, other than record the importance we place on the scrutiny and feedback of the Monitor and its contribution to our social work and care practice.

The emphasis in the report on the significance of continuous improvement reflects our commitment as an organisation to always enhancing our practice and service response. We echo the monitor's comments highlighting the theme of the importance of relationships, as it is within trusted relationships that healing and progress can occur. Our commitment to working in partnership with tamariki and their whānau to provide the right care is absolute, as is working with all those across the children's sector to enhance lifelong outcomes and wellbeing.

We would also like to take the opportunity to note our support of the work of the Minister to strive to improve the care and protection of children who are vulnerable children across Aotearoa.

Ngā mihi nui



Mike Munnelly  
Chief Executive