



Reference: 25-OIAD-009

9(2)(a)

4 November 2025

Tēnā koe 9(2)(a)

Response to your Official Information Act Request

Thank you for your email of 30 September 2025 requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) the following information as refined by you on 13 October 2025:

All information held by the Ministry relating to consultation with the Kahui Group in relation to the location of the Oranga Tamariki System monitoring function, including but not limited to what was specifically said by whom.

So, to clarify, this is not about what others said to the Kahui Group when/if it consulted with others, but what the Kahui Group said in its meetings and in its communications with MSD. So, minutes of meetings, records of meetings, who said what in meetings etc.

I have interpreted the scope of your request to be for information held relating to consultation with the Kāhui Group about the location of the oranga tamariki system monitoring function.

Aroturuki Tamariki, the Independent Children's Monitor, was established in 2019 to monitor compliance with the National Care Standards Regulations. At that time, it operated as a business unit within the Ministry of Social Development (MSD). On 1 May 2023, the role of Aroturuki Tamariki expanded to monitor the whole of the oranga tamariki system and it became a departmental agency hosted by the Education Review Office (ERO).

On 1 August 2025, Aroturuki Tamariki became an independent Crown entity which addressed some of the concerns key stakeholders (including the Kāhui Group) had about it being a departmental agency and the departmental agency being hosted by ERO.

During the early phases of establishment of the monitoring function, MSD brought together the Kāhui Group to support MSD to undertake a culturally appropriate engagement process that would lead to a well-designed, respected and culturally appropriate oversight system. Their role was to provide expert advice and oversight of the Ministry's process for engaging with Māori and endorsement that the final design of the oversight system appropriately reflected feedback received during the engagement process. After the Independent Children's Monitor began conducting its initial monitoring visits, the role of the Kāhui Group shifted towards supporting the development of its monitoring approach and engagement in relation to that monitoring work.

As mentioned in an email to you on 13 October 2025, the consequence of the move means that some information relating to the development of the legislation and the creation of the Independent Children's Monitor largely sits within MSD. Operational information sits with Aroturuki Tamariki.

I have identified four documents held by Aroturuki Tamariki that contain information in scope of your request. These are listed in the document schedule below. Three documents are minutes from meetings between Aroturuki Tamariki and the Kāhui Group, and one is a document containing feedback from the Kāhui Group to MSD about the draft Oversight of Oranga Tamariki System Bill.

The majority of the information within these documents is out of scope of your request. Some information is withheld under section 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions.

In terms of section 9(1) of the Act, I am satisfied that, in the circumstances, the withholding of this information is not outweighed by other considerations that render it desirable to make the information available in the public interest.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman of my decision to withhold information relating to this request, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on their website at:

www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Please note that due to the public interest in our work, Aroturuki Tamariki publishes responses to requests for official information on our website [here](#). If you have any queries about this, please feel free to contact us on info@aroturuki.govt.nz.

Ngā mihi nui



Arran Jones
Chief Executive

Released under the provisions of the Official Information Act 1982

Document schedule

Document no.	Document date	Content	Decisions	OIA sections applied
1	26 November 2020	A13169284 (#1.0) - Kahui Group Final Draft minutes 20201126	Release in scope material in full	n/a
2	10 February 2021	A15133201 (#1.0) - Kahui Group Final Draft minutes 20210210 v.2	Release in part	9(2)(g)(i)
3	7 April 2021	A15133194 (#1.0) - Kahui Group Final Draft minutes 20210407	Release in scope material in full	n/a
4	2 June 2021	A15133177 (#1.0) - 20210602 Kahui feedback	Release in scope material in full	n/a

The monitor
for the
Oranga Tamariki
system

Kāhui Group

The meeting started at 10.17am

	Introduction
1 & 2.	<div>Out of scope</div> <div></div>

	Items
3.	<p>Out of scope</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>I [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p> <p>I [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p> <p>I [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p> <p>I [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Out of scope [REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]
	Close

The meeting finished at 2.13pm

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

[illegible]

[illegible]

Minutes

**Independent
Children's
Monitor**

The monitor
for the
Oranga Tamariki
system

Kāhui Group

Date: Wednesday 10 February 2021

Time: 10.28am – 1.54pm

Venue: 56T, L3 Room 3.1

Attendees: Kāhui – Donna Matahaere-Atariki (Chair), Eugene Ryder, Katie Murray
ICM – Arran Jones, Nova Banaghan, Hera Douglas, Cinnamon Whitlock, Doug Fauchelle, Anna Davidson, Sue Harding
MSD: Ryan McLean & Tracey Davies (Item 4)

Support: Seth Rea

Apologies: Ta Mark Solomon

The meeting started at 10.28am

	Introduction
1 & 2.	<p>Out of scope</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>

	Items
3.	<p>Out of scope</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">[REDACTED][REDACTED][REDACTED][REDACTED][REDACTED][REDACTED][REDACTED][REDACTED][REDACTED][REDACTED]

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ryan also discussed the option of a Statutory Officer supported by a departmental agency, the Statutory Officer is similar to a CE, and would be appointed by Peter Hughes the Public Services Commissioner, in accordance with a process that is set out within the Public Services Act which requires an appointment panel to be established to give advice (the Act outlines who should be on the panel). A key issue with this option is the PSA does not make any provision for Māori to be a part of this process – in order for us to pursue this option we would use the process outlined in the Public Services Act (PSA) and then propose in addition to this – that there is Māori involvement in the appointment panel, provided for through legislation. However, this option does not rely on a parent/monitoring agency to secure resourcing. • A Statutory Officer is both the Board & the CE combined into one role. • Kāhui members attending are leaning towards Statutory Officer supported by Departmental Agency.
5.	<div>Out of scope</div> <div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> </div>
	Close

The meeting finished at 1.54pm

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Status as at:	30 July 2020				
Date Initiated	No.	Action Point	Status	Due	Responsibility
Out of scope	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

[illegible]

Minutes

Independent
Children's
Monitor

The monitor
for the
Oranga Tamariki
system

Kāhui Group

Date: Wednesday 7 April 2021

Time: 10.00am – 1.30pm

Venue: 50T, L3 Room 3.1 & 3.2

Attendees: Kāhui –Eugene Ryder, Katie Murray, Ta Mark Solomon

ICM – Arran Jones, Nova Banaghan, Hera Douglas (Chair), Shelley Tyson, Cinnamon Whitlock, Doug Fauchelle, Anna Davidson, Charlie Harris-Miller

MSD: Ryan McLean

Support: Seth Rea

Apologies: Donna Matahaere-Atariki, Druis Barrett

The meeting started at 10.28am

	Introduction
1 & 2.	<p>Out of scope</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p>

	Items
3.	<p>Out of scope</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p>

	<div data-bbox="411 241 438 519" data-label="Text"> <p>Outline of scope</p> </div> <div data-bbox="464 241 1353 627" data-label="Text"> <p>[REDACTED]</p> </div> <ul data-bbox="419 633 1401 936" style="list-style-type: none"> • Ryan then went on to explain the second paper outlining 'Arrangements for the Independent Monitor of the Oranga Tamariki System' which recommends the Monitor be attached to ERO. • Discussions were had around concerns that communities may have with the Monitor being aligned with ERO. Ryan agreed to look at reflecting the Kāhui's concerns in the paper, including an option to provide more time to assess a range of agencies that could potentially host the Monitor, and to select the agency that could best support the work of the Monitor.
	Close

The meeting finished at 1.30pm

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Status as at:	30 July 2020				
Date Initiated	No	Action Point	Status	Due	Responsibility
Out of scope	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted] [redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted] [redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted] [redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted] [redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted] [redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted] [redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted] [redacted] [redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted] [redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]

Out of scope					
		<div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>			

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Summary of feedback from Kāhui to MSD on Version 18 of draft Bill, 2 June 2021

Confirming that the Monitor will be independent

- Te Kāhui members sought assurance about the Monitor's independence and how this is reflected in the Bill. They reiterated the importance, informed by consultation with stakeholders, that the Monitor must be independent and "have teeth", have authority and not be subject to coercion. The Monitor must be seen as independent by the public – optics are important.

- **Out of scope**

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

- Out of scope [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- I [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- I [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- I [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- I [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- I [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- I [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- I [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- I [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- I [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

- Out of scope [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Released under the Official Information Act 1982