

7 January 2021

Hon Kelvin Davis
Minister for Children
Private Bag 18041
Parliament Buildings
Wellington 6160

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

Tēnā koe Minister Davis

RE: THIRD REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT CHILDREN'S MONITOR

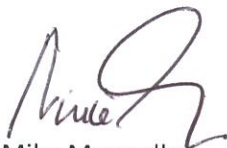
Thank you for your letter which we received on 2 December 2020 with the enclosed copy of the third Independent Children's Monitor Report: Agency Compliance with Regulations 69 and 85 of the Oranga Tamariki (National Care Standards and Related Matters) Regulations – 26 November 2020.

Barnardos welcomes this third report from the ICM which covers the twelve-month period from 30 June 2019 to 1 July 2020. We are appreciative of the observations on our systems and practice especially in the area of improvement initiatives to ensure we work towards closing the disparity gap for tamariki Māori. We had the opportunity to review drafts of the Report which related specifically to our organisation and are pleased to see the small number of comments we fed back to the Monitor are reflected in the final version. There are no further observations we wish to make about the Report.

Our engagement with the ICM to date continues to be positive and constructive. We look forward to it continuing based on our shared commitment to achieving the best possible outcomes for tamariki and rangatahi in care. We are confident our effective working relationship will continue to develop further as the scope of monitoring care standards increases in 2021.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this third report. We will be advising the ICM as previously, that we are happy for our response to be published on their website.

Nāku iti noa,



Mike Munnely
Chief Executive