



14 December 2022

Tēnā koe

On 30 May 2022, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *Under the Official Information Act 1982 I request all information held by the Ministry in relation to policy analysis and advice in regard to policy issues relating to and leading up to the introduction of the Oversight of the Oranga Tamariki System and Children and Young People's Commission Bill that has not already been publicly released.*
- *As part of your response could you identify for me (and provide links to) all material relevant to the request that has been publicly released.*

On 14 June 2022, you agreed to limit the timeframe of your request to 1 January 2018 onwards.

On 29 June 2022, the Ministry emailed you to advise that more time was required to respond to your request as your request is for a large quantity of information, and it would take longer than the 20 working day time limit to collate the material requested and assess whether any interest might be prejudiced by its release.

Please find attached the following documents as **batch nine** in response to your request:

- REP/21/5/510 – Report – *Strengthening Oversight of the Oranga Tamariki System Programme – Monthly Progress Update – April 2021*, dated 19 May 2021
- REP/21/6/624 – Report – *Strengthening Oversight of the Oranga Tamariki System Programme – Monthly Progress Update – May 2021*, dated 22 June 2021

- REP/21/7/754 – Report – *Strengthening Oversight of the Oranga Tamariki System Programme – Monthly Progress Update – June 2021*, dated 21 July 2021

The Cabinet papers *Oversight of the Oranga Tamariki System and Children and Young People's Commission Bill – Further Policy Decisions to Progress Legislation*, dated May 2021, and *Arrangements for the Monitor of the Oranga Tamariki System*, dated May 2021 were also identified to be in scope of your request. These Cabinet papers have been refused under section 18(d) of the Act as I understand the Minister of Social Development and Employment's office has already provided this to you on 30 August 2022.

The principles and purposes of the Official Information Act 1982 under which you made your request are:

- to create greater openness and transparency about the plans, work and activities of the Government,
- to increase the ability of the public to participate in the making and administration of our laws and policies and
- to lead to greater accountability in the conduct of public affairs.

This Ministry fully supports those principles and purposes. The Ministry therefore intends to make the information contained in this letter and any attached documents available to the wider public. The Ministry will do this by publishing this letter and attachments on the Ministry's website. Your personal details will be deleted, and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact OIA_Requests@msd.govt.nz.

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi nui

 10

Christian Opetaiia
Policy Manager
Child and Youth Policy



Report

Date: 19 May 2021

Security Level: IN CONFIDENCE

To: Hon Carmel Sepuloni, Minister for Social Development and Employment

Strengthening Oversight of the Oranga Tamariki System Programme – Monthly Progress Update – April 2021

Purpose of the report

- 1 This report provides you with a progress update for the Strengthening Oversight of the Oranga Tamariki System Programme for the period ending 30 April 2021.
- 2 Key points of interest are included in this cover report with a summary provided in the attached A3.

Recommended actions

- 3 It is recommended that you:
 - 3.1 **note** the contents of this Strengthening Oversight of the Oranga Tamariki System Programme Monthly Progress Update which covers April 2021

YES/NO

Arran Jones
Executive Director, Independent Children's Monitor

Date

Hon Carmel Sepuloni
Minister for Social Development and Employment

Date

Summary and key points of interest

Programme summary

- 4 Overall programme status is on track.
- 5 Planning continued for visits to Gisborne, West Coast and Mangere/Otahuhu. The Monitor also completed a forward schedule for visits until June 2023 which will complete a full cycle of monitoring around New Zealand. The schedule has been shared with the monitored agencies, and we will publish it on our website.

Policy/Legislation workstream

- 6 Cabinet papers were provided to the Minister for Social Development and Employment for Social Wellbeing Committee (SWC) on arrangements for the permanent home of the monitor and residual policy issues to finalise drafting of the Bill. These were considered at SWC on 5 May, and by Cabinet on 10 May.
- 7 Work continues on the draft of the Bill (version 16) and will be informed by Cabinet's decisions on the residual policy issues. Version 16 of the Bill will go out for agency consultation in the coming weeks.

Independent Children's Monitor monitoring and establishment workstreams

Monitoring Operations

- 8 During April planning was completed for community visits to Gisborne/Tairāwhiti, West Coast and Mangere/Otahuhu. We received a positive response from these communities and there are many groups willing to connect and share their experiences. In Gisborne/Tairāwhiti, Ngāti Porou and Te Runanga o Turanganui a Kiwa are acting as connectors to help us meet with carers, whānau and young people. The visit will include meetings in Gisborne as well as travelling to Ruatoria, Tolaga Bay and Tikitiki to meet with whānau and carers.
- 9 We have started analysis of the first three community visits (Porirua, Kaitiāia, Blenheim/Kaikoura). This includes developing the feedback for groups that we met with (young people/rangatahi, carers, and Oranga Tamariki). We are also producing a community view, which captures the voices of the groups as well as early insight into what is working well as well as challenges in the system. The community view will be shared with Oranga Tamariki as well as iwi, providers and other government agencies.
- 10 We continue to provide support the Monitored agencies as they work through the information request for information on their compliance with the Care Standards from July 2020 – June 2021. Their responses, along with the information we gather from our community visits, will inform our first report on all of the Care Standards. For Oranga Tamariki, we are working with them to understand how much of the information request they can respond to, and the quality of the data and information that they can provide. Oranga Tamariki has assured us that by the end of May they will be able to advise us of what data can be provided, the quality of that data and by implication, the extent of gaps.

Key engagements and communications

- 11 The Executive Director and Chief Monitor met with Ngāti Porou ahead of our community visit and also Ngāti Awa. The meeting with Ngāti Porou was to discuss how they would be involved with the community visit, both to hear their experience as a shared care provider, and also to act as a connector for us to meet with tamariki, whānau and carers. The purpose of meeting with Ngāti Awa was to discuss the role of the Monitor and to establish relationships ahead of our monitoring visits next year.
- 12 The Executive Director and Chief Monitor met with Matt Tukaki, Chair of the Ministerial Advisory Board, to discuss work programmes. We also shared with him the data and information request that we had made to Oranga Tamariki, so he could see

what data we were seeking, and potentially co-ordinate data requests to Oranga Tamariki.

- 13 The April meeting of Te Kāhui focussed on the monitoring visits as well as the two draft SWC papers. Their feedback on the Monitor's long-term home was reflected in the paper.

IT infrastructure and information management establishment requirements.

- 14 Business requirements gathering has been completed for a customer relationship management tool (CRM). Discussion continues with MSD procurement to develop a procurement plan.
- 15 The site architecture design is been developed for an intranet, and we anticipate we will "go-live" on 7 June. Having our own intranet will help staff to easily find the information, tools, kawa and tikanga (policies and processes) that they need to do their jobs.
- 16 Work continues with Oranga Tamariki to understand the nature and format of all the self-monitoring data and information they will provide to form the basis of any further data warehouse architecture.
- 17 An animation explaining the Monitor's work to young people and children has been completed. English and Te Reo versions of the animation are available on our website. In developing the animation, we have worked with and sought feedback from children and young people in care, as well as the views of Te Kāhui.

Appendices

- Attached as Appendix One is the Monthly Progress Update A3 for the period ending April 2021.

File ref: REP/21/5/510

Author: (Arran Jones, Executive Director, Independent Children's Monitor)

Responsible manager: (Stephen Crombie, Deputy Chief Executive, People and Capability)

Strengthening Oversight of the Oranga Tamariki System Programme | Monthly Progress Report for the Minister for Social Development | April 2021



Programme summary:

	Previous	Current	Next
Overall status	G	G	G
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programme status continues to track GREEN overall. 		
Programme Management:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following the decision on the permanent home of the monitor we will begin planning for a successful transition from the shared services of MSD. 			

Engagement, Communications and Change

Engagement:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Executive Director and Chief Monitor met with Matt Tukaki, Chair of the Ministerial Advisory Board, to discuss work programmes. We also shared with him the data and information request that we had made to Oranga Tamariki, so he could see what data we were seeking, and potentially co-ordinate data requests to Oranga Tamariki.
Māori Engagement:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Executive Director and Chief Monitor met with Ngāti Porou ahead of our community visit and also Ngāti Awa. The meeting with Ngāti Porou was to discuss how they would be involved with the community visit, both to hear their experience as a shared care provider, and also to act as a connector for us to meet with tamariki, whānau and carers. The purpose of meeting with Ngāti Awa was to discuss the role of the Monitor and to establish relationships ahead of our monitoring visits next year. The April meeting of Te Kāhui focussed on the monitoring visits as well as the two draft SWC papers. Their feedback on the Monitor's long-term home was reflected in the paper.
Communications:	

Workstream summary:

Policy/Legislation	Independent Children's Monitor Monitoring/Operations	Completing IT infrastructure and information management establishment requirements.
G	G	G
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cabinet papers were provided to the Minister for Social Development and Employment for Social Wellbeing Committee (SWC) on arrangements for the permanent home of the monitor and residual policy issues to finalise drafting of the Bill. These were considered at SWC on 5 May, and by Cabinet on 10 May. Work continues on the draft of the Bill (version 16) and will be informed by Cabinet's decisions on the residual policy issues. Version 16 of the Bill will go out for agency consultation in the coming weeks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During April planning was completed for community visits to Gisborne/Tairāwhiti, West Coast and Mangere/Otahuhu. We received a positive response from these communities and there are many groups willing to connect and share their experiences. We have started analysis of the first three community visits (Porirua, Kaitiāia, Blenheim/Kaikoura). This includes completing the feedback for groups that we met with (young people/rangatahi, carers, and Oranga Tamariki). We will produce a community view, which captures early insight into what is working well as well as challenges in the system. We continue to provide support the Monitored agencies as they work through the information request for information on their compliance with the Care Standards from July 2020 – June 2021. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion continues with MSD procurement to develop a procurement plan for a customer relationship management tool (CRM). The site architecture design is been developed for an intranet, and we anticipate we will "go-live" on 7 June. Work continues with Oranga Tamariki to understand the nature and format of all the self-monitoring data and information they will provide to form the basis of any further data warehouse architecture. An animation explaining the Monitor's work to young people and children has been completed. English and Te Reo versions of the animation are available on our website.

What's coming up:

Meetings with you:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social Wellbeing Committee 5th May. Meetings as required to discuss LEG paper at date (TBC).
Reports to you:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft LEG papers (TBC).



Report

Date: 22 June 2021

Security Level: IN CONFIDENCE

To: Hon Carmel Sepuloni, Minister for Social Development and Employment

Strengthening Oversight of the Oranga Tamariki System Programme – Monthly Progress Update – May 2021

Purpose of the report

- 1 This report provides you with a progress update for the Strengthening Oversight of the Oranga Tamariki System Programme for the period ending 31 May 2021.
- 2 Key points of interest are included in this cover report with a summary provided in the attached A3.

Recommended actions

- 3 It is recommended that you:
 - 3.1 **note** the contents of this Strengthening Oversight of the Oranga Tamariki System Programme Monthly Progress Update which covers May 2021.

YES / NO



Arran Jones
Executive Director, Independent Children's Monitor

22 June 2021
Date



Hon Carmel Sepuloni
Minister for Social Development and Employment

27/06/21
Date

- 14 A timeline for future community visits has been set through to June 2023, along with a rolling three-year plan. This will ensure that we visit every community in New Zealand at least once every three years, to inform our three-yearly report that makes an overall assessment of the state of care. This three-yearly report is a requirement under the National Care Standards and Related Matters Regulations. We are sharing this schedule widely to ensure that monitored agencies have plenty of advance knowledge about our plans. We will also look to co-ordinate with the Office of the Ombudsman, Office of the Children's Commissioner and Social Services Accreditation to allow us all to co-ordinate activities.

Key engagements and communications

- 15 The May meeting of Te Kāhui focussed on the monitoring visits as well as providing feedback on the draft Bill. The Chief Executive and members of the ERO leadership team also presented their draft evaluation of education in Oranga Tamariki Residential Care settings.
- 16 The Executive Director and Chief Monitor met with the Stand Tū Māia Leadership Team to discuss how the Monitor can engage with their staff during community visits. Stand Tū Maia provide a range of therapeutic services for tamariki and whānau. We also discussed opportunities for Stand Tū Māia to act as a connector to help the Monitor engage meaningfully and safely with tamariki, carers and whānau. We agreed to work with Stand Tū Māia Regional Managers as part of our future community monitoring visits.

IT infrastructure and information management establishment requirements

- 17 Work continues with Oranga Tamariki to understand the nature and format of all the self-monitoring data and information they will provide to form the basis of any further data warehouse architecture.
- 18 On 22 June, we launched our own intranet. The intranet helps staff to easily find the information, tools, kawa and tikanga (policies and processes) that they need to do their jobs.
- 19 Work to develop the data and analytics platform was not completed in the last quarter. MSD are currently prioritising work for the next quarter. Although having the platform in place is not critical to completing our next report, it will make the analysis of information more efficient.

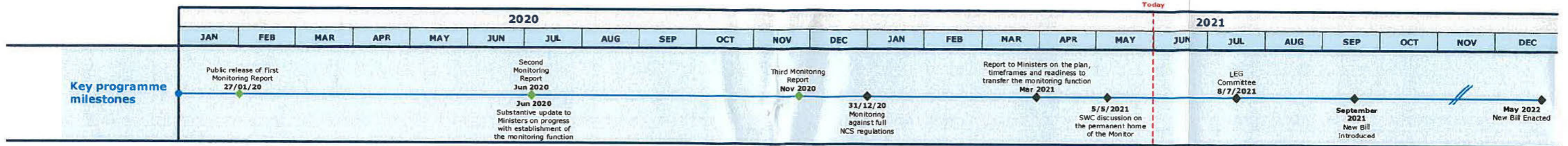
- Attached as Appendix One is the Monthly Progress Update A3 for the period ending May 2021.

File ref: REP/21/6/624

Author: (Arran Jones, Executive Director, Independent Children's Monitor)

Responsible manager: (Stephen Crombie, Deputy Chief Executive, People and Capability)

Strengthening Oversight of the Oranga Tamariki System Programme | Monthly Progress Report for the Minister for Social Development | May 2021



Programme summary:

Previous Current Next

Overall status G G G • Programme status continues to track **GREEN** overall.

Programme Management:

- Following the decision on the permanent home of the monitor we are planning for a successful transition from MSD.

Workstream summary:

Policy/Legislation	Independent Children's Monitor Monitoring/Operations	Completing IT infrastructure and information management establishment requirements.
G	G	A
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With Cabinet having made the decision of the long-term home of the Monitor, we have started planning for the transition away from MSD. The Executive Director and Chief Monitor had an introductory meeting with the Chief Executive of ERO, and we will revise existing Governance arrangements to oversee this next phase of the Monitor's establishment. Work continues on the draft of the Bill (version 18). This will go out for agency consultation in the coming weeks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A timeline of community visits has been set through to June 2023, and a rolling three-year plan for future visits. We are sharing this schedule widely to ensure that monitored agencies have plenty of advance knowledge about our plans. During May, community visits were completed in Gisborne/Tairāwhiti, West Coast and Mangere/Otago. Analysis of the qualitative data gathered from these visits has begun. We continue analysis of the first three community visits (Porirua, Kaitiaki and Blenheim/Kaikoura), and will be meeting with Oranga Tamariki during June to provide feedback from these visits. Planning has commenced for our next set of visits, scheduled to begin in August (Nelson/Motueka and West/North Auckland). Oranga Tamariki have advised they are on track to deliver their response to our annual data request by 16th August. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work continues with Oranga Tamariki to understand the nature and format of all the self-monitoring data and information they will provide to form the basis of any further data warehouse architecture. On 22 June, we launched our own intranet. The intranet helps staff to easily find the information, tools, kawa and tikanga (policies and processes) that they need to do their jobs. Work to develop the data and analytics platform was not completed in the last quarter. MSD are currently prioritising work for the next quarter.

Engagement, Communications and Change

Engagement:	The Executive Director and Chief Monitor met with the Stand Tū Māia leadership team to discuss how the Monitor can engage with their staff during community visits. Stand Tū Māia provide a range of therapeutic services for tamariki and whānau. We also discussed opportunities for Stand Tū Māia to act as a connector to help the Monitor engage meaningfully and safely with tamariki, carers and whānau.
Māori Engagement:	The May meeting of Te Kāhui focused on reviewing the draft bill and meeting with members of the ERO leadership team on their draft evaluation of education in Oranga Tamariki Regional Care settings.
Communications:	

What's coming up:

Meetings with you:

- Meetings as required to discuss LEG paper at date (TBC).

Reports to you:

- Draft LEG papers (TBC).



Report

Date: 21 July 2021

Security Level: IN CONFIDENCE

To: Hon Carmel Sepuloni, Minister for Social Development and Employment

Strengthening Oversight of the Oranga Tamariki System Programme – Monthly Progress Update – June 2021

Purpose of the report

- 1 This report provides you with a progress update for the Strengthening Oversight of the Oranga Tamariki System Programme for the period ending 30 June 2021.
- 2 Key points of interest are included in this cover report with a summary provided in the attached A3.

Recommended actions

- 3 It is recommended that you:
 - 3.1 **note** the contents of this Strengthening Oversight of the Oranga Tamariki System Programme Monthly Progress Update which covers June 2021.

YES / NO

Arran Jones
Executive Director, Independent Children's Monitor

21 July 2021

Date

Hon Carmel Sepuloni
Minister for Social Development and Employment

25/7/21

Date

Summary and key points of interest

Programme summary

- 4 Overall programme status is on track.
- 5 Planning is now underway for our next set of scheduled visits to Nelson/Motueka and West/North Auckland.
- 6 This month we will be providing feedback to the communities that we have visited recently. This includes sharing what we heard from children, carers, whānau, Oranga Tamariki, other government agencies and providers.

Policy/Legislation workstream

- 7 With Cabinet having made the decision on the long-term home of the Monitor, we have started planning for the transition away from MSD. The Executive Director and Chief Monitor have begun work to revise existing Governance arrangements to oversee this next phase of the Monitor's establishment. We will use these monthly reports to update you on progress.
- 8 Work continues on the draft of the Bill (version 18). This was circulated for agency consultation for a period of two weeks and a large amount of feedback was received which will be considered by MSD Policy. Responses to agencies will be provided in the coming weeks.

Independent Children's Monitor monitoring and establishment workstreams

Monitoring Operations

- 9 Analysis of the data gathered during the May visits to West Coast and Gisborne has been completed. The analysis from the Mangere and Otahuhu visit continues and we are meeting with the Oranga Tamariki sites over the coming weeks to provide them with an overview of what we heard from their respective communities.
- 10 We are also providing feedback to the tamariki, rangatahi, carers and other agencies we met with. Following the Porirua/Kapiti visit, we met with staff from Ngāti Toa, and specifically Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira who were involved in our visit. We were able to share back with them what the community was telling us about the quality of care. They found the information useful and they will meet with Oranga Tamariki and other providers to discuss the findings.
- 11 Our next round of visits is scheduled to begin in late July to Nelson/Motueka and in August to North/West Auckland. Planning for both visits are well underway.
- 12 We have been advised that Oranga Tamariki remain on track to deliver their response to our annual data request by 16 August. Oranga Tamariki have advised that will be able to respond to 107 queries, or 64% of the information requested. They anticipate that the majority of their response will be based on information found through case file analysis with some additional information from financial and other business reporting. This data, along with information that we have gathered from our community visits will inform our first annual report on the National Care Standards Regulations. This report will be provided to the Minister for Children at the end of the year and covers the period 1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021.

Key engagements and communications

- 13 The Executive Director and Chief Monitor met with the Chief Executive of Barnardos to discuss and learn about the evaluation of one of their services, LEAP.
- 14 The Executive Director, Chief Monitor and Managers met with members of Oranga Tamariki, Open Home Foundation, Dingwall Trust and Barnardos for the quarterly agencies meeting. This meeting enabled updates about the Monitors activities to be shared with each of the agencies, as well as the opportunity for the Monitor to seek feedback on resources developed.
- 15 Following the announcement of the long-term home of the Monitor, the Executive Director and Chief Monitor held an introductory meeting with the Chief Executive of ERO. As noted in last month's update, ERO will now form part of the governance arrangements that will oversee the Monitor's transition from MSD.

IT infrastructure and information management establishment requirements

- 16 Work continues with Oranga Tamariki to understand the nature and format of all the self-monitoring data and information they will provide to form the basis of any further data warehouse architecture.
 - 17 Work to develop the data and analytics platform was not completed in the last quarter. While the request for this work to be completed could be resubmitted to MSD, the required work would not be completed in the timeframes required for our annual report. Although having the platform in place is not critical to completing our next report, it would have made the analysis of information more efficient, meaning manual workarounds are now in place.
- Attached as Appendix One is the Monthly Progress Update A3 for the period ending June 2021.

File ref: REP/21/7/754

Author: (Arran Jones, Executive Director, Independent Children's Monitor)

Responsible manager: (Stephen Crombie, Deputy Chief Executive, People and Capability)

Strengthening Oversight of the Oranga Tamariki System Programme | Monthly Progress Report for the Minister for Social Development | June 2021



Programme summary:

Overall status	Previous	Current	Next
	G	G	G

Programme Management:

- Following the decision on the permanent home of the monitor we are planning for a successful transition from MSD.

Workstream summary:

Policy / Legislation	Independent Children's Monitor Monitoring/Operations	Completing IT Infrastructure and information management establishment requirements.
<p>With Cabinet having made the decision on the long-term home of the Monitor, we have started planning for the transition away from MSD. The Executive Director and Chief Monitor have begun work to revise existing Governance arrangements to oversee this next phase of the Monitor's establishment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work continues on the draft of the Bill (version 1.8). This was circulated for agency consultation for a period of two weeks and a large amount of feedback was received which will be considered by MSD policy. Responses to agencies will be provided in the coming weeks. 	<p>Analysis of the data gathered from the May West Coast and Gisborne community visits has been completed. The analysis from the Māngere and Otahuhu visit continues. We are meeting with the Oranga Tamariki sites over the coming weeks to provide them with an overview of what we heard from their respective communities. We also plan to provide feedback to the tamariki, rangatahi, carers and other agencies we met with.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our next round of visits is scheduled to begin in late July to Nelson/Motueka and in August to North/West Auckland. Planning for both of these visits are well underway. Oranga Tamariki have advised they remain on track to deliver their response to our annual data request by 16th August. 	<p>Work continues with Oranga Tamariki to understand the nature and format of all the self-monitoring data and information they will provide to form the basis of any further data warehouse architecture.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On 22 June, we launched our own intranet. The intranet helps staff to easily find the information, tools, kawa and tikanga (policies and processes) that they need to do their jobs. Work to develop the data and analytics platform was not completed in the last quarter. While it could be resubmitted, the required work would not be completed in the timeframes required for our annual report. Although having the platform in place is not critical to completing our next report, it would have made the analysis of information more efficient, meaning manual workarounds are now in place.

Engagement, Communications and Change

<p>Engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Executive Director and Chief Monitor met with the Chief Executive of Barmardos to discuss and learn about the evaluation of one of their services. The Executive Director, Chief Monitor and Managers met with members of Oranga Tamariki, Open Home Foundation, Dingwall Trust and Barmardos for the quarterly agencies meeting. This meeting enabled updates about the Monitor's activities to be shared with each of the agencies, as well as the opportunity for us to seek feedback on resources developed.
<p>Māori Engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We met with Ngāhi Toa, and provided feedback on what we heard from our visit to the Porirua and Kapiti communities. Ngāhi Toa found the information helpful and will use the findings as part of their ongoing engagement with Oranga Tamariki.
<p>Communications:</p>

What's coming up:

- Meetings with you:**
- Meetings as required to discuss LEG paper at date (TBC).
- Reports to you:**
- Draft LEG papers (TBC).