



26 May 2023

Tēnā koe

On 20 March 2023, you emailed the Ministry of Social Development (the Ministry) requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- *Report: Review of the Youth Plan: Updates and Next Steps*
- *Aide Memoire: Meeting with the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy Ministerial Group 6 December 2022*
- *Youth Status Report – period ending Wednesday 7 December*
- *Report: Malatest Evaluation of Youth Parliament 2022*
- *Aide Memoire: Youth Engagement Ministerial Group*
- *Report: Refugee and Migrant Youth Voice Pilot Project – Draft Report*

On 18 April 2023, the Ministry emailed you to advise that more time was required to respond to your request. The reason for this extension is that the consultations necessary to make a decision on your request are such that a proper response could not be provided in the original timeframe.

Please find copies of the following documents attached to this response:

- REP/22/11/1200 – Report – *Review of the Youth Plan: Update and Next Steps*, and attached appendix, dated 1 December 2022
- REP/22/11/1206 – Aide-mémoire – *Meeting with Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy Ministerial Group*, dated 6 December 2022
- YSR 19 – Update to Minister – *Youth Status Report – period ending Wednesday 7 December 2022*, dated 7 December 2022
- REP/22/12/1254 – Report – *Malatest Evaluation of Youth Parliament 2022*, and attached appendices, dated 9 December 2022
- REP/22/12/1268 – Aide-mémoire – *Youth Engagement Ministerial Group*, dated 12 December 2022
- REP/22/12/1282 – Report – *Refugee and Migrant Youth Voice Pilot Project – Draft Report*, dated 16 December 2022

You will note that some information is withheld from these documents under section 9(2)(a) of the Act in order to protect the privacy of natural persons. The need to protect the privacy of these individuals outweighs any public interest in this information.

Some information is withheld under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials. The release of this information is likely to prejudice the ability of government to consider advice and the wider public interest of effective government would not be served.

Some information is withheld from REP/22/12/1282 under section 18(d) of the Act, as the Ministry will make this information publicly available in the next eight weeks.

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



John Robertson
**General Manager
Youth**

Report



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT**
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

Date: 1 December 2022

**Security
Level:**

IN CONFIDENCE

To: Hon Priyanca Radhakrishnan, Minister for Youth

Review of the Youth Plan: Update and Next Steps

Purpose of the report

- 1 This report provides an update on the review of the Youth Plan and next steps following your conversation with officials on 27 October 2022.

Executive summary

- 2 We have begun further analysis on issues you directed us to explore after the strategy session on 27 October 2022, such as the Youth Plan's problem definition and potential levers to give effect to the Plan. While the Youth Plan does well in its aim of coordination and bringing visibility to issues that impact young people, we have not been able to clearly identify the impact of the Plan's actions for young people and how those actions have contributed to better outcomes, particularly in the areas of youth voice, wellbeing, leadership and transformative change.
- 3 Key issues we have identified include the Youth Plan's scope being too broad with a lack of additional resourcing to support its actions, and the limitations of the current measurement framework, which is not able to measure the impacts of the overall Plan and its actions, and how they have led to improved outcomes for young people. We are proposing to refocus the Youth Plan on youth voice and leadership to better align with its purpose under the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy (CYWS), which focuses on young people being involved and empowered (outcome six of the CYWS).
- 4 Taking a more targeted approach will facilitate improved outcomes and give the Youth Plan a valuable point of difference from existing strategies and action plans across government to gain buy-in from agencies and Ministers, and to be more deliberate about the improved outcomes we want to see. Further work is required in the next phase of the review of the Youth Plan to ensure the Plan is as effective as possible, and we are making the most impact for young people.

5 This work includes:

- mapping and evaluating youth-focused strategies and initiatives across government to identify gaps in service provision;
- collating and analysing research into the Youth Plan's potential priority cohorts to build a picture of the key issues to focus on;
- engaging with agencies to develop a refreshed Youth Plan structure and potential actions; and
- testing our draft structure and focus areas with young people through targeted engagement, with the Youth Advisory Group (YAG) playing a central role in the design and facilitation of these engagements.

6 Stronger governance and accountability mechanisms are needed to establish higher-level cross-agency buy-in and to hold relevant Ministers to account on work that impacts young people. Given the existing governance and accountability structures that are already in place to give effect to the CYWS, and the Youth Plan as an action within the Strategy, there are limited opportunities to create anything new without avoiding duplication.

7 However, refreshing the measurement framework to align with the next Youth Plan's focus on voice and leadership can provide a valuable point of difference for the Youth Plan, and a potential lever to hold your Ministerial colleagues to account on issues affecting young people. Refreshing the Youth Plan's measurement framework will require additional resourcing over a longer timeframe, the details of which we will provide you in our next report-back.

8 We will report back to you early next year with key findings from our mapping and analysis of existing initiatives and research as well as the details of the work required to refresh the measurement framework. Our report-back will include the next steps required for Cabinet approval to engage with relevant agencies and young people.

Recommended actions

It is recommended that you:

- 1 **note** our analysis on the Youth Plan's problem definition and potential levers have identified that the current scope of the Youth Plan is too broad and that in its current form is not the most effective vehicle to achieve improved outcomes for young people
- 2 **agree** to take a more targeted approach to the refreshed Youth Plan focusing on youth voice and leadership to better align with outcome six of the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy, which focuses on young people being involved and empowered

Agree / Disagree

- 3 **note** further work will need to be completed to ensure the Youth Plan is effective and leads to improved outcomes for young people, which is provided in more detail in paragraphs 22 to 34 of this report
- 4 **note** we will report back to you in early 2023 with our initial findings and next steps for engagement, with the Youth Advisory Group playing a central role in the design and facilitation of our engagement with young people
- 5 **note** the refreshed Youth Plan will need Cabinet approval given some of the initiatives in the Plan will most likely be led by other government agencies who report to different Ministers
- 6 **agree** to refresh the Youth Plan's measurement framework to ensure it is fit-for-purpose and can be used as a lever to provide buy-in and accountability on progress of work
- Agree / Disagree**
- 7 **note** refreshing the Youth Plan's measurement framework will require additional resourcing over a longer timeframe, the details of which we will provide you in our next report-back in early 2023.

Christian Opetai
Christian Opetai
Policy Manager
Child and Youth Policy

1/12/22
Date

Hon Priyanca Radhakrishnan
Minister for Youth

Date

Background

You directed your officials on 27 October to provide further advice on the problem definition and potential levers to give effect to the Youth Plan

- 9 Following on from our discussion at the strategy session on 27 October 2022, we have begun further analysis on issues you directed us to explore, such as the Youth Plan's problem definition and potential levers to give effect to the Plan. Over the last month, we have completed an overview of work to date on the Youth Plan since its inception in 2020 to find some clarity on its original problem definition. This is provided in a table and attached as **Appendix one**.
- 10 We have found the Youth Plan's actions are wide-ranging and attempt to address very broad issues for young people. The broad scope of the Youth Plan presents difficulties with developing and implementing appropriate initiatives that lead to improved outcomes for young people. Without sufficient resourcing, it is difficult to monitor and develop a wide range of initiatives that focus on youth voice, wellbeing, leadership and transformative change. These are broad concepts that require careful consideration.
- 11 The Youth Plan had two broad aims: coordinate youth-focussed work across government agencies; and facilitate improved outcomes for young people, with a particular focus on four priority groups (rangatahi Māori, Pacific, disabled and rainbow young people, aged 17 to 24 years old). These four priority groups were selected due to the likelihood of COVID-19 impacts being more significant. However, there were originally seven priority cohorts identified for inclusion. The other three priority groups included young women, young people from ethnic communities and young people living in the regions.

The Youth Plan has done well in its first aim of coordination and bringing visibility to issues that concern young people

- 12 The Youth Plan fostered cross-agency coordination and collaborative ways of working towards shared goals. A key strength of the Youth Plan was the Cross-Agency Working Group (the Working Group), with membership from over 25 government agencies.
- 13 While the Working Group is not specifically described in the Youth Plan, the ongoing coordination and participation of the group could be a potential action in the refreshed plan. The Youth Plan helped grow commitment to and visibility of youth voice within government and should continue to build on this progress through the next iteration of the Plan.

The Youth Plan in its current form is not the most effective vehicle to achieve improved outcomes for young people

- 14 The phase one report back (REP/22/10/1038) identified some issues in the Youth Plan that hindered our ability to see the impacts of its actions. Key issues identified included the following:
- Inconsistency in the size and scale of the Youth Plan's actions presented difficulties when attempting to measure their impacts. This may have resulted from a lack of tools at the time for effective collaboration and partnership across agencies and the absence of additional resourcing.
 - There was a lack of a fit-for-purpose measurement framework that captures the impacts of the overall plan and actions for young people. The Youth Plan's measurement framework was developed after the Plan itself was released and relied on broad measures from nationwide surveys to address multifaceted concepts, such as wellbeing and voice.
 - The Youth Plan's cross-agency buy-in remained at a working-group level, with no strong accountability or governance mechanisms. The Youth Plan itself could have been a valuable tool for cross-agency accountability on issues affecting young people but lacked any specific levers to do so.
- 15 These issues stem from the scope of the Youth Plan being overly broad, without additional resourcing to support the implementation of actions. Providing a clear structure and scope in the next iteration of the Youth Plan will help to identify specific and measurable initiatives, building on what we have learned.

We propose the Youth Plan focuses on youth voice and leadership to better align with the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy

- 16 The Youth Plan is part of the programme of work that give effect to the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy (CYWS), which was launched in August 2019. In this way, the Youth Plan aimed to complement the CYWS along with other government strategies and action plans.
- 17 We recommend lifting the focus on youth voice and leadership in the refreshed Youth Plan to better align with outcome six of the CYWS, which focuses on young people being involved and empowered. This focus would help centre the scope of the Youth Plan and promote more targeted and impactful actions.
- 18 While all four original focus areas of youth voice, wellbeing, leadership, and transformative change remain relevant, the Youth Plan is uniquely placed to achieve outcomes focusing on youth voice and leadership. We recognise that other initiatives within the CYWS already cover the wellbeing of children and

young people comprehensively. We also recognise that transformative change does not need to be a standalone focus area given that this would likely occur as a result of ensuring youth voice and leadership are embedded in our government policies, processes and systems. Focusing on youth voice and leadership will help ensure the Youth Plan does not duplicate work addressed by other work programmes and action plans.

- 19 Taking a more targeted approach will facilitate improved outcomes and give the Youth Plan a valuable point of difference from existing strategies to gain buy-in from agencies and Ministers. We want to use the resources available to be more focused and deliberate about the areas where we want to see improved outcomes for young people, rather than continue with a broad scope that presents difficulties to measure impact.
- 20 This shift in scope will affect the current Youth Plan's framing and focus areas by exploring how youth voice and leadership can be integrated across existing initiatives. For example, there is an opportunity to look at how we can better integrate youth voice and leadership into actions across the CYWS, such as the Social Cohesion Work programme, National Action Plan Against Racism, school attendance, Maternity Action Plan and Welfare Overhaul.
- 21 With thorough engagement with young people and key agencies to determine key issues and opportunities for further work, we believe this will result in a more effective Youth Plan.

Further work is required to ensure the refreshed Youth Plan is as effective as possible

We have started mapping youth-focused strategies and initiatives across government to identify gaps in service provision

- 22 While the Youth Plan has brought visibility to youth voice and youth-focused issues across government, it is often unclear what the Plan's role is in relation to the CYWS and other youth-related strategies and action plans. There is a plethora of action plans and strategies across government with a focus on young people such as the Youth Employment Action Plan, the Oranga Tamariki Action Plan, and the Youth Crime Action Plan.
- 23 A key finding from the phase one report back (REP/22/10/1038) was that 25 percent of the Youth Plan's actions were also actions in the CYWS, and that half of the actions existed prior to the Plan's development. A refreshed Youth Plan should complement but not duplicate actions in the CYWS or other action plans.
- 24 To increase impact for young people and gain cross-agency buy-in, mapping of existing initiatives and strategies is required. We have begun this work by mapping initiatives under the CYWS Programme of Action to determine their scope and target cohorts. Our initial analysis of these actions is that they are mostly targeted towards children under five years old, school-aged children and young people (under 18 years old), or families and whānau more broadly.

- 25 There is an opportunity to develop new initiatives that specifically focuses on youth voice and leadership, or bring a youth voice lens to existing work. Evaluation and analysis of initiatives leading to improved outcomes and the gaps in cohorts and services will help illuminate opportunities for further work through a refreshed Youth Plan.

Further analysis of research into priority cohorts will build a picture of the key issues to focus on

- 26 We have a wealth of information gathered from the Ministry of Youth Development-funded research, Youth Plan actions, targeted engagement from phase one, and the Youth Health and Wellbeing survey—*What-about-me?* findings. This information covers numerous areas and cohorts we are considering for the next iteration of the Youth Plan.
- 27 From initial analysis of these findings, voice, leadership, and identity are among the most important themes for young people and are all protective factors for wellbeing. Attempting to measure these outcomes through voter turnout or representation on boards and committees only captures the voices of young people who are already engaged. Further analysis of this research and drawing on other work underway will help to answer questions about young people who are not engaged in these formal settings.
- 28 In order to give appropriate consideration to these insights, collation and further analysis is needed to pull out the key findings and trends, specifically in areas regarding youth voice and leadership to align the next Youth Plan with its 'involved and empowered' outcome area of the CYWS. This analysis will also give an indication of possible measures to include in a refreshed measurement framework.

Engaging with agencies to develop a refreshed Youth Plan structure and potential actions

- 29 Mapping government initiatives that support young people, along with identifying the key insights from relevant research, will inform the development of an overall Youth Plan structure and form a basis to begin developing actions and initiatives with other agencies.
- 30 Given the Youth Plan's initiatives are likely to impact on other agencies, and our plans to engage on a draft Plan with young people, we will likely need Cabinet approval. We will provide you with further advice on the timing of a Cabinet process, but we anticipate that it will most likely be early next year.

Testing the draft Youth Plan structure and potential actions through targeted engagement with young people

- 31 Building on previous engagements from phase one of the review of the Youth Plan, testing key areas for further work with young people will be essential to developing a Plan that resonates for young people. The Ministry of Youth Development's Youth Advisory Group will play a central role in designing and

co-facilitating engagement with young people on the refreshed Youth Plan. This could begin in early 2023 following Cabinet's approval.

- 32 Based on previous engagement with young people on the Youth Plan, there may be an expectation that the Youth Plan should be all-encompassing and cover all youth-related issues. Presenting findings from the mapping exercise will allow young people to see the wide range of work already underway across government and tailor the discussion to what the Youth Plan could deliver and focus on within this broader context.

Enabling greater agency buy-in and accountability could involve establishing a refreshed measurement framework

- 33 The Youth Plan has struggled to achieve buy-in at higher level of leadership than its Cross-Agency Working Group. Potential levers to give greater effect to the Youth Plan such as legislation, Cabinet mandates, and Ministerial groups already exist under the CYWS or through other governance groups, such as the Youth Engagement Ministerial Group, Social Wellbeing Committee, and Social Wellbeing Board. While the Youth Plan cuts across these governance groups' key areas of work, we do not recommend establishing these types of mechanisms as to risk duplication.
- 34 To avoid duplication and provide a valuable point of difference for the Youth Plan, we propose refreshing the Youth Plan's measurement framework to align with its purpose under the CYWS outcome 'involved and empowered.' A refreshed measurement framework could monitor actions and initiatives under a refreshed Youth Plan and be a potential lever for you to hold your Ministerial colleagues to account on work underway that impacts young people. Refreshing the measurement framework could also offer an opportunity to embed a te ao Māori approach to monitoring youth voice and leadership.

Next steps

- 35 Immediate next steps for this work are detailed above, including a mapping exercise, and collating relevant literature and research to form a consolidated picture of key issues and trends for young people.
- 36 These steps will inform targeted engagement with young people to test whether the areas identified for further work are relevant. Engaging with agencies that are represented in the Cross-Agency Working Group is required to identify potential actions and initiatives.
- 37 We will report back to you in early 2023 with our next steps for this work after completing further analysis of current work and research, along with options to progress targeted engagement and the timing for going to Cabinet.
- 38 Refreshing the measurement framework will involve additional resourcing over a longer period of time. Our report back in early 2023 will provide details on the resourcing and timeframes required for this work.

Appendix one

39 A3 overview of work since the Youth Plan was launched in July 2020.

File ref: REP/22/11/1200

Author: Hope Lynch-Gerrard, Policy Analyst, Child and Youth Policy

Responsible manager: Christian Opetaia, Policy Manager, Child and Youth Policy

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Appendix one: Overview of work since the Youth Plan was launched in July 2020

1 July 2020	April 2021-July 2022	21 October 2022
<p>Cabinet agreed to the two-year Youth Plan and confirmed the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Youth Plan is an action under the CYWS. Youth Plan's focus is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mitigating the impacts of COVID-19 Priority cohorts: Māori, Pacific, rainbow and disabled young people aged 17 to 24 years old. Four key areas: voice; wellbeing; leadership; and transformative change. Actions under <u>Voice</u>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enable youth voice in the COVID-19 recovery Implement the Youth Voice Project Develop best practice guidance for engaging with young people. Actions under <u>Wellbeing</u>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the psychosocial impacts of COVID-19 on young people Create a digital environment for young people Develop a marketing campaign to promote healthy and safe relationships Develop a wellbeing campaign Increase mental health, addition and wellbeing supports for young people. Actions under <u>Leadership</u>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support community-led solutions Convene a regional young Māori leaders forum Expand existing employment service support to disabled young people in their final two years of school Expand youth employment pathway programmes. Actions under <u>Transformative change</u>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide strategic leadership and evidence-informed advice on young people Collaborate with young people to facilitate change across government Increase capability and responsiveness across government to rainbow communities. A measurement framework is being developed for the Youth Plan. Progress of the Youth Plan was agreed to be monitored by SWC through six-monthly progress reports. The Youth Plan will be reviewed two years after its launch. 	<p>Reporting on Progress to SWC and CYWS Ministers</p> <p>First 6-month Cabinet progress update in April 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key achievements in the Youth Plan's first six months <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MYD and Health Promotion Agency co-funded an initiative focused on how young people have coped with the disruption of COVID-19 known as DMs (Deep and Meaningful). This will feed into the development of a wellbeing campaign. A campaign was launched by DIA to help keep children and young people safe while online. Increased investment by MoH on providing tools and resources to help young people manage anxiety and other health related issues caused by COVID-19 as part of the psychosocial response package plus \$25 million for mental health support for tertiary students The Ākonga Youth Development Community Fund was extended to December 2023, includes \$10.467 million over two years (target group - 12 to 21 years). Two research reports were released: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact of COVID-19 on Takatāpui, Queer, Gender Diverse and Intersex Young People and Learnings for the Future (target group 16 to 24 years old) Negotiating Multiple Identities: Intersecting Identities among Māori, Pacific, Rainbow and Disabled Young People. Measurement framework still under development in consultation with the cross-agency working group. <p>Second 6-month progress update to CYWS Ministers in October 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress across actions in the Youth Plan has been good and all sixteen actions in the Youth Plan are progressing with thirteen actions on track, two actions in development, and one action has a minor delay. Key insights from the last six-months of delivery show that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the Youth Plan is enabling a change in practice across agencies by facilitating opportunities to connect early and share information the Youth Plan provides a platform to amplify youth voice across government in decisions that affect young people, but more can be done youth voice is informing evidence to shape decision-making and service delivery. A measurement framework has been developed, intended to be iterative, with improved indicators and measures included as data becomes available. <p>Third 12-month progress update to CYWS Ministers in August 2022:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Since the last progress update in July 2021, actions across the four focus areas of the Youth Plan continue to be progressed or have been integrated into business-as-usual, with all 16 actions on track. Some key achievements since July 2021 include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth Voice initiatives including The Hive and the Refugee and Migrant Youth Voice Pilot, led by MYD, created space for youth voice to be heard across government. The How To Do Nothing digital help-seeking campaign developed by Te Hīringa Hauora went live in April 2022. The Ministry of Health, as at the end of April 2022, had contracted 21 youth-focused primary mental health and addiction services around the country, including one national telehealth contract and two mental health and wellbeing services specifically for rainbow young people. Te Puni Kōkiri completed their action of convening a regional rangatahi leadership forum in late June 2022, with rangatahi participants aged 17-25 from across Te Tai Hauāuru connecting online. The Employment Service in Schools (ESiS) Pilot for disabled young people has been extended to the end of June 2023 and the Pilot evaluation is underway. The Office for Disability Issues supported the national Lead Conference, which was held online in February 2022. Key government agencies are now considering the 16 recommendations that came out of the conference. The Youth Plan Review was initiated in mid-2022, in order to contribute to and maximize the opportunities provided by the concurrent review of the CYWS. MYD has begun the process of establishing a Youth Advisory Group (YAG), which will support the review. 	<p>Ministerial report covering key findings from Phase One of the Review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Youth Plan had two broad aims: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> coordinate youth focused work across government; and facilitate improved outcomes for all young people, with a particular focus on the four key priority areas. Analysis concluded that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Youth Plan was successful in coordinating cross-agency work towards improved outcomes for young people and raising the profile of young people. However, it is not clear how the Youth Plan has resulted in improvements in outcomes for young people. Limitations in our measurement of impacts review came about due to the availability of data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We cannot measure the impact of the Youth Plan on the four priority cohorts. The current baseline focuses on broad national level surveys or data sets. Youth Health and Wellbeing Survey (<i>What About Me</i> survey) found mental wellbeing to be deteriorating among young people. Targeted engagement with young people highlighted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> lack of a visible Te Ao Māori lens across the Plan Young people want to see more of how the four focus areas complement and support each other and that an intersectional view was missing. Young people want to expand the current target of 17 to 24 years old, and include young people from ethnic and regional communities. Potential link to the priority areas for the CYWS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing child poverty and mitigating the impacts of socio-economic disadvantage Supporting children and their families in the 1000 days Addressing racism, discrimination and stigma Enhancing mental wellbeing.

Aide-mémoire



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT**
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

Meeting

Date: 6 December 2022 **Security Level:** IN CONFIDENCE

For: Hon Priyanca Radhakrishnan, Minister for Youth, Associate
Minister for Social Development and Employment

File Reference: REP/22/11/1206

Meeting with Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy Ministerial Group 6 December 2022

Meeting details Tuesday 6 December 2022 - Cabinet Committee Room – 8.5
Beehive

**Expected
attendees**

- RT Hon Jacinda Ardern, Minister for Child Poverty Reduction (Chair)
 - Hon Grant Robertson, Minister of Finance
 - Hon Kelvin Davis, Minister for Children
 - Hon Dr Megan Woods, Minister for Housing
 - Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education, Minister of Police
 - Hon Andrew Little, Minister of Health
 - Hon Carmel Sepuloni, Minister for Social Development and Employment
 - Hon Poto Williams, Minister for Disability Issues, Associate Minister for Children,
 - Hon Peeni Henare, Minister for Whānau Ora
 - Hon Willie Jackson, Minister for Māori Development
 - Hon Jan Tinetti, Associate Minister of Education
 - Hon Kiri Allan, Minister of Justice
 - Hon Aupito William Sio, Minister for Pacific Peoples
 - Hon Marama Davidson, Minister for the Prevention of Family and Sexual Violence, Associate Minister of Housing (Homelessness)
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**Purpose of
meeting**

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss work and progress on the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy (the CYWS).

The meeting's agenda includes:

- Child Wellbeing and Poverty Reduction – Budget 2023
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- CYWS Actions Tracker
 - Oranga Tamariki Action Plan: In Depth Assessment on housing
 - Removal of reservations to UNCROC
 - Review of hardship assistance
 - Welfare overhaul
 - National Action Plan Against Racism
 - Community Hubs
-

Background

The CYWS is a whole-of-Government plan for improving the wellbeing of children and young people in New Zealand. It is administered by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC).

It has six outcome areas, 75 action points, and 40 supporting action points. The action points contribute to the main outcome areas in the Programme of Action.

Item 1: Child Wellbeing and Poverty Reduction – Budget 2023

The Minister for Child Poverty Reduction and the Minister of Finance will lead a discussion on the Child Wellbeing and Poverty Reduction – Budget 2023.

Summary of findings

This is a closed item. You will receive information regarding the proposals in the meeting.

Item 2: Actions Tracker update

The Minister for Child Poverty Reduction will lead a discussion on the updated Actions Tracker.

You have now received the indicated follow up report on Phase 2 for the Youth Plan review.

Item 3: OTAP: In Depth Assessment on housing

The Minister for Children will lead a discussion on the Oranga Tamariki Action plan regarding the in-depth assessment on housing.

Summary of findings

On 4 April 2022, Cabinet endorsed the Oranga Tamariki Action Plan, which commits agencies to work together to achieve the outcomes set out in the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy (CYWS).

This is the fourth assessment that has focused on the housing needs of children and young people, their families and whānau and caregivers. It has found that Oranga Tamariki is largely reliant on government services for housing, which can create problems when children or young people require specialist care or support. Furthermore, it found that parents undergoing

reunification has been delayed due to their inability to source appropriate housing.

The Oranga Tamariki Action Plan has presented four recommendations on how to improve access to services for Action Plan priority populations:

- Reviewing and strengthening the fast-track system to ensure that it is operating to meet the housing needs of children and young people in care, their families, whānau and caregivers.
- Identifying cross-agency ways to support children and young people in care to stay or return to their parents, family and whānau.
- Ensuring emergency housing options are fit-for-purpose when longer term housing is not available.
- Ensuring children and young people in care have suitable housing and more intensive support needs (and preventing these children and young people from coming into care in the first place).

**Item 4:
Removal of
reservations to
UNCROC**

The Minister for Children will lead a discussion on the removal of New Zealand's reservations to the UNCROC – which cover Article 32(2) – legislating for a minimum age of employment, Article 37(c) – not mixing children with adults when deprived of liberty (e.g., in police cells and youth justice residencies) and Article 2 – right to be free from discrimination (specifically in regard to entitlements and benefits with reference to their authority to be in New Zealand).

Summary of findings

Removing the reservations will involve varying degrees of complexity. Each of the reservations will require significant policy, operational and legislative change as well as funding for infrastructure or services in some cases to make New Zealand fully compliant.

If Ministers decide to progress removal of any or all of the reservations, any decision to withdraw a reservation would require Cabinet approval and consideration by Parliament as a treaty action. New Zealand has a longstanding commitment to remove reservations to Articles only if our laws and practices are compliant to those Articles.

Article 32(2)

Work is already underway on Article 32(2).

Article 37(2)

Work on Article 37(2) could progress – but only with agreement to fund new infrastructure.

You have previously asked whether the Independent Child Monitor's (ICM) could monitor compliance with Article 37(c). While this would be possible the ICM's immediate priority needs to ensure that it is able to get its enhanced monitoring function operating correctly. Monitoring compliance with article 37(c) could be looked at again when the reservation is lifted or following the review of the Monitor and the Oversight of Oranga Tamariki System.

Article 2

New Zealand will be unable to remove its reservation to Article 2 without complex policy work to make changes to the social security system.

This means:

- identifying all the individual services and supports that the government administers and the residence requirements that apply to them, and assessing how MSD is compliant or non-compliant with Article 2
- undertaking policy work on how we propose to become compliant with Article 2 (including advice on the choices to be made about what distinctions we retain between children in New Zealand for different purposes), the costs, and necessary changes to legislation
- securing funding to implement any changes to primary and secondary legislation, IT systems and operational guidance and training.

Advancing this work would require trade-offs to be made against already planned policy and implementation work including in the Welfare Overhaul space.

- You are already proposing an extensive programme of work over the next few years in this space in Item 6.

Item 5: Review of hardship assistance

s9(2)(f)(iv)

Item 6: Welfare overhaul

➤ The Minister for Social Development and Employment will lead a discussion on the welfare overhaul.

Summary of findings

There has been great progress in overhauling the welfare system since 2017.

\$14.6 billion has been invested across various initiatives to improve the lives of the most vulnerable New Zealanders including \$12.5 billion on improving income support, \$868 million into employment interventions, \$560.8 million on responding to increased demand for housing support and \$297.4 million in the community sector.

These investments have resulted in approximately 351,000 individuals, families, and whānau being, on average, \$113 a week better off than they were in 2017.

All measures of child poverty have trended downwards since 2017/18, fewer households with children report not having enough income for basics and total incomes are higher for those supported by benefits in 2022 than in 2018 even with inflation for housing and costs of living accounted for.

Priority areas over the next 12 months include the continuation of the Active Labour Market Programme review.

Priority areas over the next 1-3 years include starting work exploring opportunities to align youth rates with those of other main benefits.

- Priority areas over the next 1-3 years also include beginning work on increasing rates and expanding eligibility to Child Disability Allowance and the Disability Allowance.

**Item 7:
National Action
Plan Against
Racism**

The Minister of Justice will lead a discussion on the National Action Plan Against Racism. This is a progress report on the first of the two stages of public engagements.

It outlines findings from focused engagement to inform the Action Plan, including engagement with children and young people. It also indicates emerging priorities for the action plan, next steps and timeframes for its completion.

Stage two involves broad and inclusive consultation on the draft action plan before it is finalized.

Summary of findings

Stage one has focused on building an understanding of how racism is defined and what it looks like in Aotearoa New Zealand. It is essential to understand what racism looks like and how it operates before we can address it.

Participants in the focused community engagement reported:

- They are continuing to live with the impacts of New Zealand's history of racism – including the disproportionate and intergenerational impacts of colonization and breaches of Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

-
- Facing insidious and ingrained racism in institutions and society that is not immediately obvious but its impacts are widely felt.
 - Denial and dismissal of racism and minimal action of accountability to address it e.g programmes or conversations that direct attention away from it.
 - Exposure to racism on a daily basis across all settings of society – workplace, schools, shops, online, sports, in families and communities and it is compounded when they are a part of other marginalized groups.
 - Encountering institutional racism in legislation, policies and practices including discrimination from employers, teachers, health practitioners, Police and other services including pay disparities, services and diversity in leadership and decision making.
 - Feeling under-served, under-valued, and over scrutinized in the media, schools, health and social services, workplace, immigration and by the government and Justice system.

Children and young people want consequences for racist behaviour and more equal opportunities in both employment and education, along with better access to physical and mental healthcare and fairer treatment by the Police. They also want to see education around racism along with compulsory education on New Zealand's history and different cultures.

They also want to have more opportunities for knowing and celebrating cultures, to be heard by and visible to people in power while also being able to lead their own discussions aimed at tackling racism at a local level.

Talking points

- I'm pleased to see Justice officials will work with the Office of the Children's Commissioner to ensure that the youth perspectives continue to shape the plan and will work closely with the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, and Education.
 - The What about me? Survey report finds that Rangatahi Māori were less likely to feel accepted by those they live with, at work and by other people in their lives.
-

**Item 8:
Community
Hubs**

The Ministry of Social Development and Employment will lead a discussion regarding advice from the Social Wellbeing Agency on options to improve the focus on community hubs

This is an oral item

Author: Taylor Arneil, Contractor, Child and Youth Policy

Responsible manager: Christian Opetaia, Policy Manager, Child and Youth Policy

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MINISTRY OF
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO TAIOHI
Administered by the Ministry of Social Development



MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

Youth Status

REPORT

Youth Status Report 19: Period ending Wednesday 07 December 2022

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Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy

Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy Review Recommendations

MYD is continuing to work with the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) and other agencies following the CYWS review (Youth Status Report ending 09 November refers). The next scheduled meeting with DPMC and other agencies to discuss progress on the four youth engagement related recommendations is scheduled for 14 December.

We note your request, in response to the update on this work in the previous YSR, that you would like to be kept updated on the work related to recommendation 2: Exploring ways to increase promotion of existing civics education resources and encourage their wider use within the school systems. A DPMC-led meeting had been scheduled for 05 December; however, this is now being rescheduled for the New Year. We will provide you with a further update post that meeting.

Review of the Youth Plan

The Phase One report back on the Review of the Youth Plan was provided to you on 21 October 2022 [REP/22/11/1038]. You requested follow-up advice from MSD Child and Youth Policy on options for Phase Two of the Review: Refresh. The Review of the Youth Plan: Update and Next Steps [REP/22/11/1200] was provided to you on 01 December 2022.

MYD and MSD Child and Youth Policy have initiated a mapping exercise of youth-focused strategies and initiatives across government to identify gaps in service provision. MYD will facilitate engagement with the Youth Plan Cross-Agency Working Group in December to contribute to the mapping exercise.

Contact: Christian Opetia / s9(2)(a) & Dibs Patel, Director Youth / s9(2)(a)

Youth Voice – The Hive

Beehive roadshow

MYD is continuing to work with Curative and liaising with your Office to select 2023 dates for a Hive hui in Wellington (Youth Status Report ending 07 September refers).

Two potential date ranges are being explored at this stage: 13-15 March and 27-29 March. MYD is seeking to align dates with a MYD Youth Advisory Group (YAG) meeting, to provide an opportunity for the two groups to collaborate on relevant areas of work (also see Youth Advisory Group update).

The final agenda of the 'Beehive roadshow' is still to be confirmed but will focus on creating engagement and connection opportunities between Hivers and decision-makers.

Contact: Dibs Patel, Director Youth / s9(2)(a)

Youth Engagement

MYD's Youth Advisory Group

This item provides an update on the work MYD has been doing with the Youth Advisory Group (YAG) since their appointment on 26 September 2022, and an outline of the areas of work we're intending to engage the group with in 2023.

Onboarding

As you are aware, following the appointment of members, MYD convened meetings of the South Island group in Christchurch and the North Island group in Auckland. These meetings had a strong focus on induction. Since those meetings we've continued with onboarding the 20 members, including completion of HR and payroll requirements, which has been a more intensive process than expected, but is now complete.

MYD is working alongside each YAG member to develop personal profile tiles that will be published through our social media channels early in the New Year, to introduce each member.

Pastoral care

MYD has developed a YAG Pastoral Care Plan, informed by the Youth Parliament 2022 pastoral care experience and documentation. MYD's Regional Relationship Managers (RRMs) have pastoral care responsibilities for YAG members within their regions.

RRM's have completed their first pastoral care checks with all YAG members. These were focused on the unique needs of each member and the support they require during their tenure. This feedback will help inform the development of the work programme for 2023.

Co-Chair appointments

We have appointed two YAG members to be Co-Chairs for the YAG. Chanay Peri has been appointed Co-Chair for the North Island, and Piper Pengelly as Co-Chair for the South Island.

The intention is that Chanay and Piper will hold these roles until such time as our YAG is well-formed, and the YAG members can appoint their own chairs. We anticipate this will be during or soon after their first national group in-person hui.

Chanay and Piper have been selected because they both have experience undertaking similar roles for various youth voice groups and we were confident they would have capacity to take on the role and to provide strong support to their peers. Their knowledge and experience during this establishment period will be particularly helpful as we plan our next in-person engagements and the YAG's involvement in the next steps for the Review of the Youth Plan (the Review).

Our Co-Chairs will be leading an online engagement of the national YAG next Tuesday 13 December, as a whanaungatanga event centred around the holiday period, and to discuss the work we have planned for 2023. They are also developing content for a new Youth Advisory Group Facebook page.

Short bios:

- Chanay Peri, Napier - Chanay currently works as a Regional Advisor for Te Puni Kōkiri and facilitates the Hawkes Bay Public Service Rangatahi Advisory Group. She was Co-Chair of the Hastings Youth Council in 2021 and continues to mentor current members.

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Chanay lists her superpowers as being strong and courageous in supporting others and working in a wider group of individuals to create change.

- Piper Pengelly – Christchurch - Piper is currently studying Law, Political Science and Economics at the University of Canterbury. She is the outgoing Chair of Youth Voice Canterbury where she facilitated youth participation engagements throughout Ōtautahi. Piper lists her top three superpowers as activation, analysis, and communication. Piper has also recently commenced a summer internship at the Ministry for the Environment.

Youth Advisory Group Engagements

As you are aware, the YAG participated in the Review in late September, as part of the targeted engagement with young people. Following that engagement, and prior to advice going to you on the Review, YAG members were provided with an opportunity to review how their feedback was being summarised, either written or online (or both), to close the feedback loop. There was also an opportunity for the YAG members to provide their feedback to you directly during an online Zoom hui in November.

The tentative timeframes for the Review of the Youth Plan had Phase Two: Refresh occurring between November 2022 and January 2023, and the YAG was potentially going to be involved in that work dependent on the approach that was taken. Following the Phase One report back on the Review, you requested further advice from MSD Child and Youth Policy on options which has now been delivered. In the meantime, YAG members have been provided other opportunities to contribute to MYD's work outside of the Review. These opportunities include:

- Review of MYD's Youth Engagement resources (Youth Status Report ending 26 November refers), including:
 - Keepin' It Real,
 - Stand Up and Be Heard Toolkit,
 - Youth Participation Benefits for Your Organisation,
 - Youth Participation in Decision-Making Action Plan,
 - Youth Engagement in Local Government
- Providing feedback as part of a review of MYD's F23 Youth Participation Survey
- Assisting with a design brief for YAG Imagery
- Supporting initiatives that align well to the Youth portfolio (e.g. Launch of the Social Cohesion Fund which Wajahat Ali Muhammad Jawad attended)

Some members were also approached to take part in MYD's recent funding panels; however, their availability didn't align with the timeframes.

We are also planning to engage a small group of YAG members in our upcoming advice to you regarding the Refugee and Migrant Youth Voice Pilot, and the Youth Parliament Evaluation findings.

Whilst a couple of members indicated to us during their pastoral care check ins that they would be keen for more YAG work, the vast majority are students, so we have been mindful of not scheduling too many engagements during the October/November exam period and the commencement of summer internships. During this period, we have therefore focused on completing onboarding and pastoral care check ins and building whanaungatanga through smaller group meetings on specific projects and opt-ins for those who have had availability.

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Next Steps

It is expected the work for the YAG will intensify in early 2023 with their involvement in the refresh of the Youth Plan, completing their review of the MYD Youth Engagement resources, professional development opportunities, and potential engagements with other youth advisory groups across government.

As indicated in The Hive update, we are working with Curative and your Office to identify a potential date in March where both groups can travel to Wellington for their respective meetings, and also looking at whether they can work collaboratively on an aspect of the Review and/or promoting Youth Engagement resources and Hive advice on best practice for government agencies. We intend to scope out the collaboration opportunity with the Co-Chairs and Curative in early 2023.

We will provide you with an outline of the 2023 work programme, and potential opportunities for you to meet with the YAG, in the next Youth Status Report, following the discussion with the YAG next week.

Contact: Tania McKay, Principal Advisor / s9(2)(a)

Anime Pilot – Episode 3 Launch

Big River Creative (BRC) has completed Anime Pilot – Episode 3 and it is set to launch on Friday 16 December 2022. Episode 3 reminds young people that 'you're not alone', encouraging them to lean on the people that love and support them, including friends, whānau, and their tūpuna (ancestors).

Similar to the rollout of Episode 2 (Youth Status Report for the period ending Wednesday 06 July 2022 refers), the launch is supported by a two-week marketing and promotions campaign, developed with young people. BRC has organised social media influencers across Instagram and TikTok to drive this promotion through creating and sharing content related to the Anime episode on their respective platforms.

BRC has approached the young people involved in the Anime Pilot youth development opportunities to ascertain if they want to contribute anonymised commentary regarding their youth development experiences to MYD's Instagram content supporting the launch. We are awaiting an update.

Next steps

The final version of Anime Pilot – Episode 3 will be shared with your Office prior to the launch. As previously advised (Youth Status Report for the period ending Wednesday 26 October 2022 refers), a review of this Anime pilot will be undertaken as part of a broader internal review proposed in 2023 of mediums MYD has piloted to increase youth engagement rates and to build our understanding of what works well for young people.

Contact: Brenda Harkin, Principal Advisor / s9(2)(a)

MYD Regional Updates

No updates this period. MYD's Regional Relationship Managers are now focused on supporting contract negotiations and onboarding with new providers and assisting with the transition plans for current providers with contracts ending.

Contact: Debra Tuifao, General Manager, Youth / s9(2)(a)

Upcoming Reports

Topic	Responsible Manager	Due to Minister's Office
Youth Parliament Independent Evaluation	Debra Tuifao	December 2022
Budget 2023	Dibs Patel	December 2023
Youth Development Grant Fund	Debra Tuifao	December 2022
Refugee and Migrant Youth Voice Pilot Report	Dibs Patel	December 2023
F23 Open Tender Funding Round – final decisions, options to announce, and update on other funding avenues	Debra Tuifao	February 2023
Ākonga Fund – Evaluation	Debra Tuifao	February 2023

Information for the Minister's Office

Topic	Date Commissioned	Date of Completion
Aide memoire + Talking points – Duke of Edinburgh Gold Awards	27 October 2022	01 December 2022
2022 Christmas Card List – Youth Stakeholders	23 November 2022	Underway
Aide memoire – Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy (CYWS) Ministerial Group Meeting	28 November 2022	02 December 2022
King's Birthday Honours Award Nominations	28 November 2022	Underway
F23 Open Tender Funding Round Information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Other MYD funding streams that will soon be available - Timeline of the remaining steps for F23 procurement - Timeline of the three other funding avenues 	02 December 2022	06 December 2022

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Topic	Date Commissioned	Date of Completion
- The communications approach for all applicants from the F23 process		
Letter of Condolences – Halberg Foundation	05 December 2022	06 December 2022
Aide memoire – Youth Engagement Ministerial Group meeting 12 December 2022	08 December 2022	To commence upon receipt of papers
Potential provider visit options – Northland	06 December 2022	Underway

Parliamentary Questions

Requestor /Topic	Received	Current Status
43177: How many management staff, if any, were employed by the agencies for which the Minister is responsible, if any, as of November 2017, November 2020, and November 2022, with data broken down by the total numbers, if any, of management staff, senior management staff, and all non-senior management staff?	21 November 2022	Complete
43724 As of 28 November 2022 how many invoices, if any, have been received by the agencies for which the Minister is responsible, if any, but payment is not yet due, have been received and payment is overdue by no more than 7 days, have been received and payment is overdue by 8 to 14 days, have been received and payment is overdue by 15 to 31 days, and have been received and payment is 31 days or more overdue, as measured by the due date listed on the invoice?	25 November 2022	Complete
43755 For each of the Departments / Departmental Agencies the Minister is responsible for, if any, how many staff, if any, have received payments that did not affect their base salary between 27 April 2018 and 27 April 2020, and how much money, if any, do those payments add up to in total?	25 November 2022	Complete
44236 For each of the Departments/Departmental Agencies the Minister is responsible for, if any, how many job vacancies were there for each individual Department/Departmental Agency as at 31 October 2022?	30 November 2022	Complete
44138 How many people who have committed a criminal offence, if any, have been supported by the Akonga Fund as a result of the Government's announcement on 6 September 2022 to "bring down youth crime"?	30 November 2022	Complete

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Official Information Act Requests

Requestor	Topics	Date Received	Due to Requestor	Current Status
Requests to the Ministry				
s9(2)(a)	MYD Anime Pilot with Big River Creative	13 September 2022	23 November 2022	Complete
	Information on mandatory training programmes for MYD, including cost, name of course, purpose and who was required to attend	25 November 2022	23 December 2022	Underway

Agency Meeting Actions

Title	Responsible Manager	Date Commissioned	Current Status
Keep the Minister updated on the progress of the Budget 23 process (cost pressures track)	Dibs Patel	13 September 2022	Underway
Minister to meet with Youth Sector Leadership Group	Dibs Patel	29 September 2022	Underway
Explore options for a longer contract extension for the five providers with 10+ yrs relationship or just the Duke of Edinburgh	Debra Tuifao	02 December 2022	Complete
Include advice on when Youth Development approaches are most useful in the context of the YEMG's work in the AM	Debra Tuifao	17 November 2022	Complete
Ensure the advice coming re: Phase Two of the Youth Plan includes the problem definition, and that the options put to the Minister are clearly communicated	Chris Nimmo	17 November 2022	Complete
Provide the communications collateral for the FTE Pilot announcements by 24 November	Debra Tuifao	17 November 2022	Complete

Upcoming Agency Meetings – draft forward agenda

February 2023		Notes
F23 procurement - update on final decisions, other funding avenues, and options for communicating decisions	MYD	Report due February 2023

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February 2023		Notes
Refugee and Migrant Youth Voice Pilot	MYD	Draft report due December 2022
Social Sector Action Plan	MYD	Letter from Hon Sepuloni

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Report

Date: 09 December 2022

Security level: In confidence

To: Hon Priyanca Radhakrishnan, Minister for Youth

Report no: REP/22/12/1254

Malatest Evaluation of Youth Parliament 2022

Purpose

- 1 This report provides you with a copy of the Evaluation of The Ministry of Youth Development – Te Manatū Whakahiato Taiohi: Youth Parliament 2022 completed by Malatest International.

Recommended actions

- 1 **Note** the contents of the attached *Evaluation of The Ministry of Youth Development – Te Manatū Whakahiato Taiohi: Youth Parliament 2022, December 2022*, completed by Malatest International
- 2 **Note** MYD will propose a meeting with OOC and MSD Youth Policy officials in the new year to jointly review the evaluation findings and consider the recommendations to strengthen the programme
- 3 **Agree** to share the *Evaluation of The Ministry of Youth Development – Te Manatū Whakahiato Taiohi: Youth Parliament 2022* report with the Speaker of the House of Representatives

AGREE / DISAGREE

Debra Tuifao
General Manager, Youth

09/12/2022

Date

Hon Priyanca Radhakrishnan
Minister for Youth

Date

Background

- 2 Youth Parliament 2022, the tenth Youth Parliament programme, was jointly led by you, as the Minister for Youth, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives (the Speaker) and delivered by the Ministry of Youth Development (MYD) – Te Manatū Whakahiato Taiohi (with support from the Child and Youth Policy team in the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) – Te Manatū Whakahiato Ora), and the Office of the Clerk of the House of Representatives (OOC) – Te Tari o te Manahautū o te Whare Māngai.
- 3 The Youth Parliament programme has two components:
 - a six-month Youth Parliament tenure involving engagement with electorate Member of Parliament or Press Gallery editors, community engagement, training, mentoring, and support
 - a Youth Parliament two-day event in Wellington, which includes legislative and general debate speeches, select committees, and other parts of the parliamentary process.
- 4 The Youth Parliament programme aims to:
 - replicate the parliamentary process
 - involve as many young people as possible (before and after the Youth Parliament event)
 - maximise the educational opportunities of the Youth Parliament event
 - enhance parliamentary public relations
 - make known the views expressed to appropriate policy agencies.
- 5 MYD commissioned Malatest International to evaluate the 2022 Youth Parliament programme to better understand:
 - what changed in the delivery of the Youth Parliament programme¹ and what effects did the changes have?
 - how did young people experience the 2022 Youth Parliament programme?
 - how did the participating young people benefit? What benefits extended to their peers and the wider community?
 - what opportunities are there to strengthen the Youth Parliament programme?
- 6 Malatest invited Youth MPs and Youth Press Gallery members to complete an online survey. Overall, 51% of Youth MPs and 58% of Youth Press Gallery members completed the survey. Malatest also conducted semi-structured interviews to explore the perspectives of participants and stakeholders in-depth. MYD and OOC provided contact details for ten stakeholders from MSD, MYD, OOC and the Press Gallery. This included two MPs.
- 7 A summary of the evaluation findings is attached at **Appendix One**.
- 8 A copy of the full *Evaluation of The Ministry of Youth Development – Te Manatū Whakahiato Taiohi: Youth Parliament 2022*, and a summary A3 report for participants is attached as **Appendix Two**.

¹ Including changes introduced following the evaluation of Youth Parliament 2019 [REP/21/3/269 refers].

Highlights of Key Findings

Changes in roles and responsibilities

- 9 The move to joint delivery, governed by the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between OOC and MYD, strengthened the delivery for 2022. For example:
- stakeholders thought this reallocation of roles and responsibilities made delivery of the programme more efficient because each partner could focus on their area of expertise
 - stakeholders also agreed the changes strengthened the relationship between MYD and OOC.

Young people's experience of the 2022 Youth Parliament programme

- 10 Stakeholders felt participants were more representative of the Aotearoa New Zealand population than previous programmes. For example:
- stakeholders who participated in previous programmes thought the 2022 Youth Parliament programme was more diverse, with a range of ethnicities, disabilities, and life experiences, including rainbow, care experienced, and rurally located young people.
- 11 The majority of young people engaged with their community. For example:
- during the Youth Parliament tenure, more than half (56%) of Youth MPs took part in a community project on the issues they were passionate about
 - community engagement was valuable for the participants, but also extended the value of the Youth Parliament programme to the wider youth community.
- 12 Most young people had a positive experience during the event, but Youth MPs agreed it was intensive.
- Almost all (92%) Youth MPs rated the Youth Parliament event as "very good" or "good".
- 13 Young people felt well-supported by MYD and OOC and had very positive experiences with their MYD chaperones.

Benefits for young people, peers and the wider community

- 14 Participants reported increased engagement with politics and their community, an improvement in their understanding of Aotearoa New Zealand's political system, developing valuable skills and connecting with like-minded peers and Parliament networks.
- Survey responses showed most respondents had increased their political engagement (85%) and community engagement (73%) since being a part of Youth Parliament.
 - Almost all survey respondents (96%) have gained valuable skills through the programme. Youth MPs described improvements in their leadership skills, confidence, communication skills and ability to understand a wider range of perspectives.

- 15 The Youth Parliament event created a space for government and Parliament to hear directly from young people and provided a vehicle to promote positive parliamentary public relations.
- Half of surveyed young people (50%) thought issues raised by them had been heard by key decision makers.
- 16 The evaluation identified opportunities to strengthen the Youth Parliament programme. This includes:
- continue to clarify roles and responsibilities of OOC and MYD
 - increase across government engagement with Youth Parliament to ensure youth voice is listened to and acknowledged
 - continue to increase diversity of Youth Parliament participants
 - increase consistency of the Youth MP experience, with more guidance for MPs about selecting and supporting their Youth MP
 - extend pre-event educational opportunities for participants
 - continue refining the Youth Parliament Standing Orders to make the Youth Parliament event youth-friendly
 - increase opportunities to engage with the Wellbeing Team
 - ensure the Youth Parliament programme is designed to meet and support the needs of all young people. For example, including Youth Parliament alumni in its development
 - further improve support for youth with disabilities
 - further raise the profile of the Youth Parliament event
 - increase community engagement with Youth Parliament.

Next steps

- 17 MYD recommends you share the *Evaluation of The Ministry of Youth Development – Te Manatū Whakahiato Taiohi: Youth Parliament 2022* report with the Speaker. If you agree to do this, MYD will share a copy with the OOC.
- 18 Based on the review of the evaluation findings and in preparation for a future Youth Parliament, MYD will propose a meeting with OOC and MSD Youth Policy officials in the new year to jointly review the evaluation findings and consider the recommendations to strengthen the programme.

Author: Alice Black, Senior Advisor

Responsible manager: Dibs Patel, Director Youth

File Ref: A145576

Appendix 1: Summary of findings and suggestions for future Youth Parliament programmes

Evaluation findings	Opportunities to strengthen the Youth Parliament programme
What changed in the delivery of the Youth Parliament programme and what effects did the changes have?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OOC led and implemented the Youth Parliament event. • MYD continued to lead youth development support for participants. • MSD continued to provide policy support. • The move to joint delivery governed by the MOU between OOC and MYD strengthened the delivery for 2022. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend the benefits of joint delivery between OOC and MYD by reviewing the process and continuing to clarify roles and responsibilities. • Involve a wider group of agencies to extend the benefits across Government: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ consider greater contribution by Youth Policy function of MSD to the design of the programme. ○ introduce Ministry of Education to use Youth Parliament to contribute to a civics education piece and create an opportunity for participants and their wider community to learn about voting and engaging with the machinery of Government. ○ include alumni voice to the design of the programme.
How did young people experience the 2022 Youth Parliament programme?	
Application and selection process	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selection processes for Youth MPs varied across the country. • Stakeholders felt participants were more representative of the Aotearoa New Zealand population than in previous programmes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase application and selection process guidance for MPs: Provide more information to MPs about selecting a Youth MP, including what others have done in the past and what other MPs are doing. • Continue to increase diversity of Youth Parliament participants: Promote Youth Parliament as an event for all young people, not just those with leadership experience or political connections. The concentration of the many outcomes in the participant group increases the importance of the selection process being accessible.
Youth Parliament tenure	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement and contact with adult counterparts varied for Youth MPs, but was more consistent for Youth Press Gallery members and the Youth Clerk. • The majority of young people engaged with their community. • Youth Press Gallery members published a range of articles on local and political issues. • Participants enjoyed their various trainings, but found in-person sessions more valuable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase guidance for MPs: Provide more information for MPs about Youth Parliament, including what role MPs are expected to play in supporting Youth MPs and what Youth MPs should complete during Youth Parliament. Include examples of previous success stories. • Provide more clarity for MPs about their role in supporting Youth MPs: More clarity about role of MPs in providing apolitical support and supporting community engagement. • Set clear expectations of Youth MPs for community engagement: Post-COVID-19 there is an opportunity to clarify expectations for Youth MP community engagement. This could be in the form of a minimum requirement for Youth MPs to engage with their community and collect and share community voice. • Increase in-person training: Utilise in-person training as much as possible. If online training is needed, make it shorter, more digestible, and more interactive.

Youth Parliament event

- The majority of participants felt prepared for the Youth Parliament event, but a large group did not.
- Most young people had positive experience during the event, but Youth MPs agreed it was intensive.
- Youth Press Gallery members published a range of articles about the event and Youth MPs.
- The event was more political than in previous programmes, but Youth Press Gallery members and the Youth Clerk were encouraged to be apolitical.
- **Extend pre-event educational opportunities for participants:** Create opportunities for Youth MPs to engage with speech writers to assist with development of their speeches, prepare young people for navigating different perspectives, and increase familiarity with Youth Parliament standing orders.
- **Continue to refine the Youth Parliament Standing Orders to make the Youth Parliament event youth-friendly:** The role of the Youth Clerk and the Youth Parliament Standing Orders was important. Planning time for applause and considering removing some of the more difficult to plan aspects of debate (for example, motions without notice) in the House could make it easier to manage without reducing its value for participants.
- **Focus the parliamentary activities on the most valuable components:** Simplify parliamentary activities and make them less information heavy. Consider opportunities to remove events altogether, such as the mock bill. Consider the value of adding opportunities for more debate between participants and time for debrief after the sharing of sensitive topics.
- **Create working spaces for Youth MPs:** Have working spaces available to Youth MPs, like the space available to Youth Press Gallery, with printing facilities.

Supporting Youth Parliament participants

- Young people felt well-supported by MYD and OOC and had very positive experiences with their chaperones.
- **Increase opportunities to engage with Wellbeing Team:** Create opportunities for participants to engage with wellbeing supports during the Youth Parliament tenure, increase visibility of Wellbeing Team during the Youth Parliament event, and distinguish the Wellbeing Team from MYD and OOC staff.
- **Further improve support for youth with disabilities:** Provide access to trained professionals to support youth with disabilities to participate.

How did participating young people benefit? What benefits extended to their peers and the wider community?

Value for participants:

- Increased engagement with politics and their community.
- Improved understanding of Aotearoa New Zealand's political system.
- Developed valuable skills
- More connected with like-minded peers and Parliament networks.

Value for Parliament and the Government:

- Hear youth voice.
- Enhanced Parliamentary public relations.

Value for all young people:

- Learn about Parliament.
- Increased engagement with politics and their community.

If benefits to the wider community are an important outcome of the Youth Parliament programme they could be enhanced by:

- **Further raise the profile of the Youth Parliament event:** Set up a webpage and social media channel for Youth Press Gallery members during the event.
- **Increase community engagement with Youth Parliament:** Encourage participants to report back to their community about their experience and learnings, have a space for friends and whānau to attend and engage with the Youth Parliament event, and potentially involve young people in the selection process.

YOUTH PARLIAMENT 2022 EVALUATION

Summary for Youth Parliament participants

We heard from 73 Youth Parliament 2022 participants through an online survey and in-depth interviews

We wanted to understand your experience of the application process, your tenure and the Youth Parliament event. We also wanted to hear what you got out of Youth Parliament 2022 and how it could be improved. Here are some of the key results.

Application process

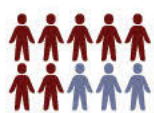
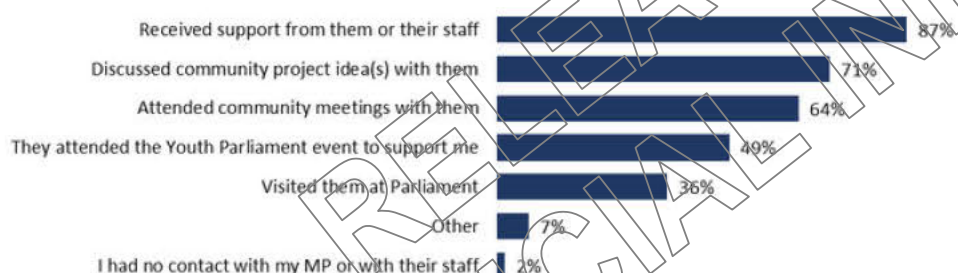


- Youth MPs applied for Youth Parliament 2022 in a variety of ways, while Youth Press Gallery members had the same application process.
- Most of you thought the application process was simple and fair, but some said the process was unfair because of the different processes.
- You were a diverse group of young people with a range of backgrounds and life experiences.

Youth Parliament tenure

72% of you had enough engagement with your MP or the Press Gallery editors

What did you do with your MP?



Seven in ten of you engaged with your community or published articles

You wrote articles and speeches, and did community projects on...

- Youth and mental health issues
- Relationship education
- Driver licence barriers
- Lowering the voting age
- Abolition of the starting out wage
- Youth civics education
- Promotion of community activities



Stakeholders valued the opportunities to hear you talk about issues you are passionate about, but over a quarter of you thought issues you raised had not be heard by key decision makers. Both you and stakeholders wanted to see your voice have more impact.

78% of you said your tenure was good or very good

- You enjoyed engaging with their community and learning from your MP or the Press Gallery editors. Most of you found your training useful.
- Some Youth MPs did not get support for their community projects and some were unsure what they could do.

[Community engagement] encouraged me to go out of my comfort zone.

Youth Parliament event

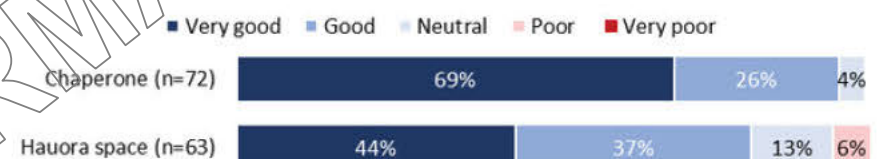
92% of you thought the Youth Parliament event was good or very good

- Many of you felt prepared for the event because of your prior experience and skills you had learnt from training or your MP or the Press Gallery editors.
- You enjoyed the general and legislative debates and talking about youth issues in Parliament.
- You valued the opportunity to meet and connect with like-minded peers.

[The best bits for me] was the question time. Because it was just interesting hearing how the Prime Minister responded to the questions and the questions that were being asked.

You said it was an intensive couple of days

95% of you had positive experiences with your accommodation, chaperone and the hauora space



Some of you had negative experiences with transport and food

Overall experience

96% of you said you have gained valuable skills from being a part of Youth Parliament 2022

You developed...

- Leadership skills
- Confidence
- Communication skills
- Journalism skills

Beforehand I sort of had a negative view of politics and how it works. So Youth Parliament to me was really like, they actually do things that matters, and you can contribute to that.

You...

- Have increased engagement with politics and your community
- Have a better understanding of Aotearoa New Zealand's political system
- Are more connected with like-minded peers and Parliament networks



Recommendations for improving Youth Parliament



Increase across Government engagement with Youth Parliament to ensure your voice is listened to and acknowledged



Ensure the Youth Parliament programme is designed to meet and support the needs of all young people, for example, by including Youth Parliament alumni in its development



Increase consistency of the Youth MP experience with more guidance for MPs about selecting and supporting their Youth MP



Malatest
International

Final report:

**The Ministry of Youth
Development – Te Manatū
Whakahiato Taiohi: Youth
Parliament 2022**

December 2022



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Executive summary

Background

Youth Parliament 2022, the tenth Youth Parliament programme, was jointly led and delivered by the Ministry of Youth Development (MYD) – Te Manatū Whakahiato Taiohi (including the Youth Policy function in the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) – Te Manatū Whakahiato Ora) and the Office of the Clerk of the House of Representatives (OOC) – Te Tari o te Manahautū o te Whare Māngai.

Due to the success of the first Youth Parliament, in 1995 Cabinet invited the Minister of Youth Affairs to hold a Youth Parliament every term. Every three years, the Youth Parliament programme creates a unique opportunity for young people to engage with politics, parliamentary processes, and their community. About 140 young people participate as Youth members of Parliament (Youth MPs), Youth Press Gallery members and, in 2022, the Youth Clerk of the House. The Youth Parliament programme has two components:

- A six-month Youth Parliament tenure involving engagement with electorate Member of Parliament or Press Gallery editors, community engagement, training, mentoring, and support
- A three-day Youth Parliament event in Wellington with legislative and general debate speeches, select committees, and other parts of the parliamentary process.

The Youth Parliament programme aims to:

- replicate the parliamentary process
- involve as many young people as possible (before and after the Youth Parliament event)
- maximise the educational opportunities of the Youth Parliament event
- enhance parliamentary public relations
- make known the views expressed to appropriate policy agencies.

Youth MP community engagement, publication of Youth Press Gallery Member articles, and publicity surrounding the Youth Parliament programme extend Youth Parliament's influence to other young people and the wider community.

Based on previous Youth Parliament programme evaluation findings, several changes were implemented to strengthen the delivery of the programme and a decision made to reallocate roles and responsibilities between OOC and MYD.

MYD commissioned Malatest International to evaluate the 2022 Youth Parliament programme to better understand:

- What changed in the delivery of the Youth Parliament programme and what effects did the changes have?
- How did young people experience the 2022 Youth Parliament programme?
- How did the participating young people benefit? What benefits extended to their peers and the wider community?
- What opportunities are there to strengthen the Youth Parliament programme?

Summary of findings

Evaluation findings	Opportunities to strengthen the Youth Parliament programme
What changed in the delivery of the Youth Parliament programme and what effects did the changes have?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OOC led and implemented the Youth Parliament event. • MYD continued to lead youth development support for participants. • MSD continued to provide policy support • The move to joint delivery governed by the MOU between OOC and MYD strengthened the delivery for 2022. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend the benefits of joint delivery between OOC and MYD by reviewing the process and continuing to clarify roles and responsibilities. • Involve a wider group of agencies to extend the benefits across Government: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ consider greater contribution by Youth Policy function of MSD to the design of the programme. ○ introduce Ministry of Education to use Youth Parliament to contribute to a civics education piece and create an opportunity for participants and their wider community to learn about voting and engaging with the machinery of Government. ○ include alumni voice to the design of the programme.
How did young people experience the 2022 Youth Parliament programme?	
Application and selection process	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selection processes for Youth MPs varied across the country. • Stakeholders felt participants were more representative of the Aotearoa New Zealand population than in previous programmes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase application and selection process guidance for MPs: Provide more information to MPs about selecting a Youth MP, including what others have done in the past and what other MPs are doing. • Continue to increase diversity of Youth Parliament participants: Promote Youth Parliament as an event for all young people, not just those with leadership experience or political connections. The concentration of the many outcomes in the

Evaluation findings	Opportunities to strengthen the Youth Parliament programme
	participant group increases the importance of the selection process being accessible.
Youth Parliament tenure	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement and contact with adult counterparts varied for Youth MPs, but was more consistent for Youth Press Gallery members and the Youth Clerk. The majority of young people engaged with their community. Youth Press Gallery members published a range of articles on local and political issues. Participants enjoyed their various trainings, but found in-person sessions more valuable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase guidance for MPs: Provide more information for MPs about Youth Parliament, including what role MPs are expected to play in supporting Youth MPs and what Youth MPs should complete during Youth Parliament. Include examples of previous success stories. Provide more clarity for MPs about their role in supporting Youth MPs: More clarity about role of MPs in providing apolitical support and supporting community engagement. Set clear expectations of Youth MPs for community engagement: Post-COVID-19 there is an opportunity to clarify expectations for Youth MP community engagement. This could be in the form of a minimum requirement for Youth MPs to engage with their community and collect and share community voice. Increase in-person training: Utilise in-person training as much as possible. If online training is needed, make it shorter, more digestible, and more interactive.
Youth Parliament event	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The majority of participants felt prepared for the Youth Parliament event, but a large group did not. Most young people had positive experience during the event, but Youth MPs agreed it was intensive. Youth Press Gallery members published a range of articles about the event and Youth MPs. The event was more political than in previous programmes, but Youth Press Gallery members and the Youth Clerk were encouraged to be apolitical. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extend pre-event educational opportunities for participants: Create opportunities for Youth MPs to engage with speech writers to assist with development of their speeches, prepare young people for navigating different perspectives, and increase familiarity with Youth Parliament standing orders. Continue to refine the Youth Parliament Standing Orders to make the Youth Parliament event youth-friendly: The role of the Youth Clerk and the Youth Parliament Standing Orders was important. Planning time for applause and considering removing some of the more difficult to plan aspects of debate (for example, motions without notice) in the House could make it easier to manage without reducing its value for participants. Focus the parliamentary activities on the most valuable components: Simplify parliamentary activities and make them less information heavy. Consider opportunities to remove events altogether, such as the mock bill. Consider the

Evaluation findings	Opportunities to strengthen the Youth Parliament programme
	<p>value of adding opportunities for more debate between participants and time for debrief after the sharing of sensitive topics.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Create working spaces for Youth MPs: Have working spaces available to Youth MPs, like the space available to Youth Press Gallery, with printing facilities.
Supporting Youth Parliament participants	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Young people felt well-supported by MYD and OOC and had very positive experiences with their chaperones. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increase opportunities to engage with Wellbeing Team: Create opportunities for participants to engage with wellbeing supports during the Youth Parliament tenure, increase visibility of Wellbeing Team during the Youth Parliament event, and distinguish the Wellbeing Team from MYD and OOC staff. ● Further improve support for youth with disabilities: Provide access to trained professionals to support youth with disabilities to participate.
How did participating young people benefit? What benefits extended to their peers and the wider community?	
<p>Value for participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increased engagement with politics and their community. ● Improved understanding of Aotearoa New Zealand's political system. ● Developed valuable skills ● More connected with like-minded peers and Parliament networks. <p>Value for Parliament and the Government:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hear youth voice. ● Enhanced Parliamentary public relations. <p>Value for all young people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Learn about Parliament. ● Increased engagement with politics and their community. 	<p>If benefits to the wider community are an important outcome of the Youth Parliament programme they could be enhanced by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Further raise the profile of the Youth Parliament event: Set up a webpage and social media channel for Youth Press Gallery members during the event. ● Increase community engagement with Youth Parliament: Encourage participants to report back to their community about their experience and learnings, have a space for friends and whānau to attend and engage with the Youth Parliament event, and potentially involve young people in the selection process.

1. Background

1.1. The Youth Parliament programme

Youth Parliament 2022, the tenth Youth Parliament programme, was jointly led and delivered by the Ministry of Youth Development (MYD) – Te Manatū Whakahiato Taiohi (including the Youth Policy function in the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) – Te Manatū Whakahiato Ora) and the Office of the Clerk of the House of Representatives (OOC) – Te Tari o te Manahautū o te Whare Māngai.

Due to the success of the first Youth Parliament, in 1995 Cabinet invited the Minister of Youth Affairs to hold a Youth Parliament every term. Every three years, the Youth Parliament programme creates a unique opportunity for young people to engage with politics, parliamentary processes, and their community. About 140 young people participate as Youth members of Parliament (Youth MPs), Youth Press Gallery members and, in 2022, the Youth Clerk of the House. The Youth Parliament programme has two components:

- A six-month Youth Parliament tenure involving engagement with electorate Member of Parliament or Press Gallery editors, community engagement, training, mentoring, and support
- A three-day Youth Parliament event in Wellington with legislative and general debate speeches, select committees, and other parts of the parliamentary process.

The Youth Parliament programme aims to:

- replicate the Parliamentary process
- involve as many young people as possible (before and after the Youth Parliament event)
- maximise the educational opportunities of the Youth Parliament event
- enhance parliamentary public relations
- make known the views expressed to appropriate policy agencies.

Youth MP community engagement, publication of Youth Press Gallery Member articles, and publicity surrounding the Youth Parliament programme extend Youth Parliament's influence to other young people and the wider community.

1.2. Evaluation of the Youth Parliament programme

The evaluation of the 2019 Youth Parliament programme highlighted some opportunities to strengthen the programme:

- More collaboration between MYD and OOC to deliver the programme.
- A more consistent selection process across regions with a focus on ensuring equity of opportunity to participate for young people.
- Improve consistency in the engagement with Members of Parliament (MPs).
- Expand opportunities to increase the incentives for Youth MPs to engage their communities through their community project and other ways.
- Increase media coverage of the Youth Parliament event.
- Expand opportunities for Youth Press Gallery members to disseminate their writing, in addition to the existing newsletter.
- Pair Youth Press Gallery members with mentors from the official Press Gallery and affiliate with a press organisation.
- If feasible, extend the Youth Parliament event to slow the pace of the programme and give young people time to acclimatise.

MYD commissioned Malatest International to evaluate the 2022 Youth Parliament programme to better understand:

- What changed in the delivery of the Youth Parliament programme and what effects did the changes have?
- How did young people experience the 2022 Youth Parliament programme?
- How did the participating young people benefit? What benefits extended to their peers and the wider community?
- What opportunities are there to strengthen the Youth Parliament programme?

1.2.1. Logic model and evaluation framework

We developed a logic model (Figure 1) and evaluation framework (Appendix 1) to guide the evaluation. The framework aligns the evaluation questions with indicators and data sources, providing a basis for the data collection tools, analytical framework, and this report.

Overarching goal of Youth Parliament:

Young people experience and engage with the work of Parliament and create meaningful connections, not only between themselves and Parliament, but with their wider communities

Outcomes

Participating young people

- Young people have a better understanding of Aotearoa New Zealand's political system
- Young people have increased engagement with politics and their community
- Young people develop valuable skills
- Young people are more connected with like-minded peers and Parliament networks

All young people

- Young people learn about Parliament
- Peers have increased engagement to politics and their community

The Government and Parliament

- Enhanced Parliamentary public relations
- Parliament and the Government hear youth voice

Outputs

Young people participate in a process that accurately reflects Parliament

Participants share issues they are passionate about

Participants connect with Parliament networks

Participants engage with other young people and the wider community

Participants complete training and educational opportunities during the programme

Participants are connected with like-minded peers

Participants work on topics and issues they are passionate about

Some young people share issues they are passionate about

Some young people observe a programme that accurately reflects Parliamentary processes

Peers engage with Youth Parliament participants

Youth Parliament is publicised on social media and media

Parliament and the Government hear issues young people are passionate about

Parliament and Government staff connect with young people

Activities

Application and selection:

- **Youth MPs:** Apply to MPs, who select a process with support from OOC
- **Youth Press Gallery members:** Apply to OOC with CV, cover letter and writing samples
- **Youth Clerk:** Apply to OOC with CV, cover letter and opinion piece, and complete an interview with the Clerk

Youth Parliament tenure:

- **Youth MPs:** Participate in training, connect with MPs and their communities
- **Youth Press Gallery members:** Participate in training, write and publish articles focusing on local and political issues
- **Youth Clerk:** Participate in training and develop youth standing orders

Youth Parliament event: Orientation day with mihi whakatau, Parliament tour, group meetings and a social event. Two days of Parliamentary activities with opening ceremony, question time, select committees, general debate and legislative debate speeches. Chaperone and Wellbeing Team available for participants.

- **Youth MPs:** Participate in orientation day and Parliamentary activities
- **Youth Press Gallery members:** Participate in orientation day and write and publish articles focusing on Parliamentary activities and Youth MPs
- **Youth Clerk:** Provide procedural advice to participants and the Speaker while in the House and clerk a select committee

- Share their voice with Youth MPs during community engagement, Youth Press Gallery members with articles and participation in Youth Parliament event select committees
- Engage with peers and whānau that are Youth Parliament participants
- Observe Youth Parliament by watching friends and whānau participate on Parliament TV and hear about it from personal conversations, social media and other media

- OOC coordinates information available online about Youth Parliament
- Adult counterparts connect with and support Youth Parliament participants
- MYD and OOC provide pastoral and practical support to Youth Parliament participants
- Some Parliament and Government staff attend the Youth Parliament event
- Some Parliament and Government agencies hear information shared by young people during programme

Inputs

Office of the Clerk of the House of Representatives - Manahautū o te Whare Māngai:

- Lead and implement three-day Youth Parliament event
- Support participant selection
- Lead and develop participant training
- Lead Youth Parliament communications and coordinate information available online
- Organise and deliver Parliamentary aspects of Youth Parliament event
- Support Youth Clerk and organise transport, accommodation and food for training and Youth Parliament event

Ministry of Youth Development - Te Manatū Whakahiato Taiohi:

- Lead youth development support
- Practical and pastoral care support for all participants
- Organise transport, accommodation and food for Youth MPs and Youth Press Gallery members for training and Youth Parliament event
- Organise and deliver a social event hosted by the Minister for Youth and Speaker of the House

Youth Policy function of Ministry of Social Development - Te Manatū Whakahiato Ora:

- Policy support
- Organise and deliver select committee and mock bill topics
- Provide draft instructions and develop a notes and context document for the mock bill

Figure 1. Logic model for the evaluation of the 2022 Youth Parliament programme

1.2.2. Data collection

We invited Youth MPs and Youth Press Gallery members to complete an online survey. Overall, 51% of Youth MPs and 58% of Youth Press Gallery members completed the survey. The profile of survey respondents was consistent with the overall demographics of participants, although rangatahi Māori and Pacific young people were slightly underrepresented (Table 1).

Table 1. Demographics of survey respondents and overall participants

Demographics	Survey	Overall participants ¹
Total	72 (51%)	139
Role		
Youth MP	85%	86%
Youth Press Gallery member	15%	14%
Age (at time of the Youth Parliament event)²		
16	17%	12%
17	43%	45%
18	32%	32%
19	4%	7%
20+	4%	6%
Gender³		
Male	44%	48%
Female	49%	50%
Gender diverse	7%	2%
Ethnicity (ethnicity total count⁴)		
Māori	19%	26%
Pacific Peoples	7%	13%
Asian	19%	19%
MELAA	4%	2%

¹ Provided by MYD.

² Age and gender was not provided for one young person.

³ Gender of overall participants is based on pronoun information provided to MYD. Based on n=131 as it was not appropriate to assume gender identity for all pronouns provided i.e., she/they or they/he.

⁴ Young people may be represented in multiple groups.

Demographics	Survey	Overall participants ¹
European	56%	54%
Other Ethnicity	3%	8%

We used semi-structured interviews to explore the perspectives of participants and stakeholders in-depth (Table 2).

Table 2. Interview participants

Source	Evaluation participants
Participant interviews	19
Youth MPs	14
Youth Press Gallery members	4
Youth Clerk	1
Stakeholder interviews	10

At the end of the survey, we asked young people to opt-in for interviews. We also randomly selected some young people for interviews to balance interview participation between Youth MPs and Youth Press Gallery members. Nine young people opted-in and all completed interviews, while 17 were randomly selected and nine agreed to an interview. The Youth Clerk was not asked to complete the survey due to their unique role and instead participated in an in-depth interview of their experience.

MYD and OOC provided contact details for ten stakeholders from MSD, MYD, OOC and the Press Gallery, which included two MPs.

1.2.3. Analysis

We used a general thematic approach to identify themes in qualitative data. We entered the results in an analytical framework based on the overall evaluation framework. Quantitative data from the survey data were analysed descriptively.

1.2.4. Strengths and limitations

Triangulation of information gathered from different sources and perspectives strengthened the evaluation:

- The strong response to the survey and the match between the respondent and non-respondent profiles gives confidence in the accuracy of the survey results.
- The range of stakeholders provided a diversity of perspectives.

- Young people participated in the evaluation within two months of the Youth Parliament event while their memories of their experiences were fresh but may not evidence longer term impacts on participants.

Young people not selected for Youth Parliament were outside the scope of this evaluation but could provide useful perspectives on the application and selection processes. The wider group of young people could also help to understand the reach of outcomes from Youth Parliament programme.

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2. Changes in roles and responsibilities

2.1. Changes to strengthen delivery of the Youth Parliament programme

Several changes were implemented to strengthen the delivery of the Youth Parliament programme. The most significant was the reallocation of roles and responsibilities between OOC and MYD (including the Youth Policy function in MSD). The programme was previously led and delivered by MYD (and MSD) with some support from OOC.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was created in July 2021 between MYD and OOC to clarify the intended goals and objectives of the Youth Parliament programme and their respective roles and responsibilities. MYD and OOC felt this would:

- deliver a more standardised approach to the selection of Youth MPs
- utilise OOC's in-depth knowledge and expertise of the New Zealand Parliament, strong relationships across the Parliamentary precinct, and available resourcing capacities
- enhance the goal of duplicating Parliamentary processes.

MYD would continue to lead youth development support for participants, MSD would continue to provide policy support, and OOC would lead and implement the Youth Parliament event (Figure 2).

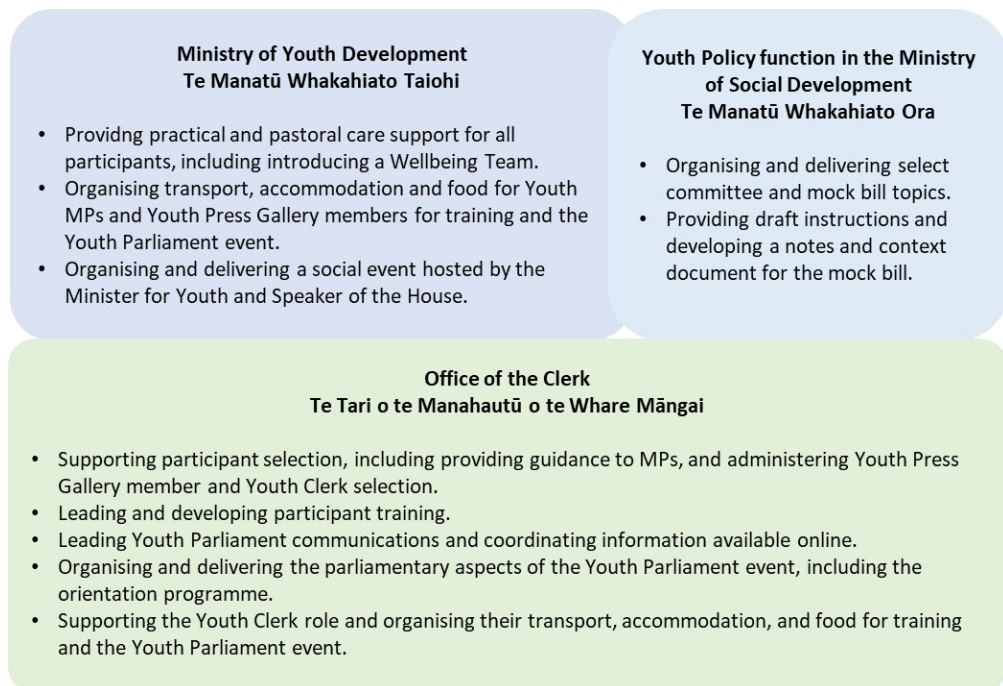


Figure 2. Roles and responsibilities for the Youth Parliament programme

Stakeholders thought this reallocation of roles and responsibilities made delivery of the programme more efficient because each partner could focus on their area of expertise. OOC was best placed to replicate Parliamentary processes because its staff had the best understanding of Parliament and MYD was best placed to provide pastoral care and to apply the principles of youth development to the programme.

[OOO] run a Parliament for Members of Parliament. So it makes sense that we're running it for Youth MPs, because we actually know the building, know the procedures. (Stakeholder)

It makes complete sense for MYD to be involved for the pastoral care element. They know how to work with young people and support them. (Stakeholder)

Stakeholders also agreed the changes strengthened the relationship between MYD and OOC, which was more difficult in the past without clarity around roles and responsibilities.

The relationship between the two agencies is always fraught. And it seems to have been less fraught each time ... I think the key reason for that is we put together an MOU at the start of the process this time, which we haven't done before. And that clearly outlined roles and responsibilities, and who was responsible for what. (Stakeholder)

The weekly meetings between OOC, MYD and MSD contributed to MSD feeling well supported and included in the partnership. However, MSD felt changes to the policy process for the 2022 programme were made without consulting them which created unrealistic requirements which needed to be scaled back later.

Some of those changes made between 2019 and this year were made without asking policy what worked best ... I think next time if any changes are made, policy really has to be part of it, because there were some things that were really inefficient or not doable that we had to push back on. (Stakeholder)

2.2. Differing focuses within the Youth Parliament programme

The MOU between OOC and MYD described the Youth Parliament programme as an opportunity for young people from around Aotearoa New Zealand to be heard and to work on issues they are passionate about. The core objective is defined as:

To encourage young people to experience and engage with the work of Parliament and to create meaningful connections, not only with themselves and Parliament, but extending to their wider communities as well.⁵

While this overall goal was clear, the two organisations still had different focuses. MYD wanted the Youth Parliament programme to support participants to develop their ability to engage with the machinery of Government and advocate for their community. OOC felt the programme was an opportunity to educate young people about Parliament and engage with the voting system, and support them to have their say.

Some stakeholders felt increased involvement and support provided by OOC, alongside COVID-19 interruptions and changes in personnel in MYD, contributed to more emphasis on the Youth Parliament event and less focus on community engagement. They thought this contributed to some young people coming to the Youth Parliament event and having their say, rather than sharing the voice of their community.

Interviewed stakeholders felt the reallocation of roles was a positive change for the Youth Parliament programme, both for the delivery and for participants. However, they noted some challenges in working together because of differences between Parliament and Government agencies and different, but overlapping, responsibilities.

This led to a general feeling by OOC and MYD staff, that MYD and OOC were two separate teams working to deliver the Youth Parliament programme, rather than one team working together.

Despite intentions, this was very much two teams trying to deliver one project. And we were never really one team. (Stakeholder)

⁵ Youth Parliament 2022 MOU.

3. Young people's experiences of the 2022 Youth Parliament programme

3.1. Application and selection process

3.1.1. Participants applied for a range of reasons

Participants most often heard about the 2022 Youth Parliament programme from social media, at school or from their friends (Figure 3).

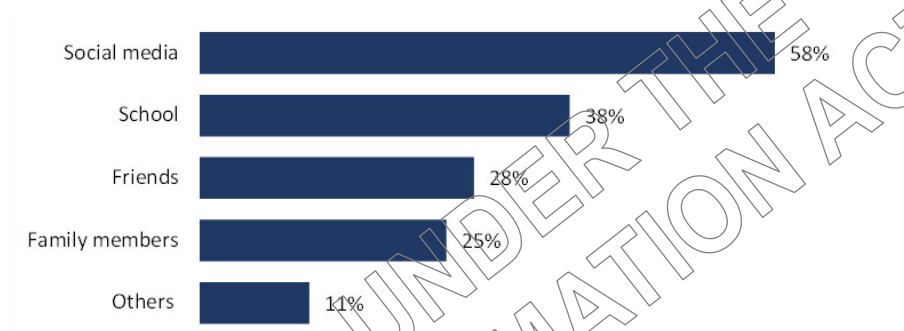


Figure 3. Where participants heard about the 2022 Youth Parliament programme (Source: Survey responses, n=72)

Participants applied because they wanted:

- To develop their interest in politics, learning about Aotearoa New Zealand's political system and learning from MPs

I was interested in politics and [the programme] was advertised in a way that led me to be in a position to be able to learn about the New Zealand political system, but also get to know that my local MP. (Youth MP)

- To connect with their community and share youth voice

It's a national platform that Youth Parliament offers to represent my peers and the views of other youth in New Zealand. (Youth MP)

- To develop journalism skills

I have a very big passion in journalism. And that's the path that I wanted to go down. (Youth Press Gallery member)

- To meet other like-minded young people.

I think it was just a good option for me to have a more tangible way of engaging with people and getting to know other like-minded. (Youth MP)

Some stakeholders felt the good reputation of the Youth Parliament programme was a key driver for young people to apply.

I think Youth Parliament as a whole has quite a high profile. And I think, to young people at school, it's similar to Model UN in the sense that it is held in high esteem as an opportunity for young people to participate in. (Stakeholder)

3.1.2. MPs took different approaches to selecting the Youth MPs

MPs were responsible for selecting their Youth MPs and had autonomy over their own approach. OOC provided guidance and information about selecting a Youth MP, including advertising and appointing, but some stakeholders reported that MPs wanted more guidance.

I've talked to MPs who really had no idea [how to select a Youth MP] and didn't know what other people did and didn't know what had been done before. And so just had to make it up as they went along. They did well. But it would have been easier for them if they had some frameworks, or options, or examples of what other people have done in the past. (Stakeholder)

Youth MPs described experiences ranging from submitting written CVs and/or cover letters to speeches and short videos. Some completed formal or informal interviews. One-third (31%) of participants had already met their MP prior to the 2022 Youth Parliament programme. The Press Gallery Chair selected the Youth Press Gallery members with OOC facilitating the application process and the Clerk selected the Youth Clerk. Youth Press Gallery members had a more consistent application process, where they submitted a CV, cover letter, and writing samples. They did not complete an interview. The Youth Clerk submitted a CV, cover letter, wrote an opinion piece about a Parliament ruling, and completed an interview with the Clerk.

3.1.3. Most participants thought the application process was simple and fair

The process from application to selection took two to four weeks for all roles, which many considered appropriate. Most survey respondents agreed it was easy to find information about the 2022 Youth Parliament programme and they understood how to apply (Figure 4).

I found it quite easy to find easy to access information. The application process itself was relatively easy. (Youth MP)

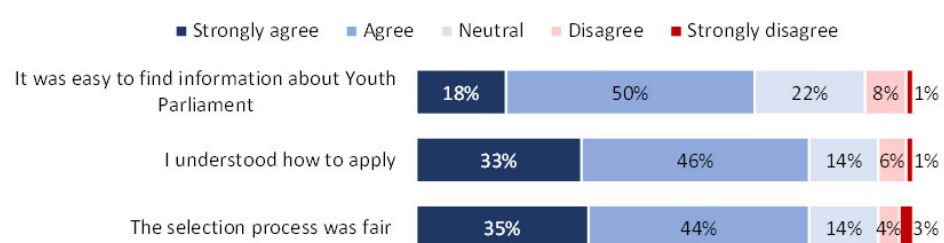


Figure 4. Participant views on the clarity and fairness of the application process (Source: Survey responses, n=72)

Most participants (79%) believed the selection process was fair (Figure 4), compared to a small proportion of Youth MPs who felt the inconsistent application process and unequal opportunities in rural and urban areas made it an unfair process for Youth MPs across Aotearoa New Zealand.

I think it was a little bit, who you know, and to a certain extent, what opportunities you'd had to be involved in activism before ... [in Auckland] there's lots more opportunities for activism and to be in groups like that that look really good. And I think that shows if you're more involved when you're in a bigger region compared to, say, if you're from rural New Zealand. (Youth MP)

I don't think [the selection process] was fair. Because you applied to your MP, and each party has his own selection process. Some of my friends went through a much more rigorous selection process, like do speeches, but I didn't do that. (Youth MP)

3.1.4. Stakeholders thought the participants were more diverse

OOC and MYD encouraged diversity in the Youth Parliament participants. Interviewed stakeholders who had participated in previous programmes thought the 2022 Youth Parliament programme was more diverse, with a range of ethnicities, disabilities, and life experiences, including rainbow, care experienced, and rurally located young people.

Each year, I continually am impressed by the diverseness of Youth Parliament. It's probably more diverse than our actual Parliament and great to see so many people with different needs and representing different communities. (Stakeholder)

In contrast, stakeholders commonly felt its accessibility was limited by young people's perceptions of who could take part. The Youth Parliament programme's reputation was a driver for some young people to take part, but also discouraged young people who thought it was only for those with leadership experience.

I think there's still like an inherent level of filtering that goes through young people's heads, if they see their head student applying, then they will make assumptions around the types of people that will attend these sorts of events. (Stakeholder)

3.2. Relationships with adult counterparts

3.2.1. Youth MPs had varying relationships with their MPs

Almost all Youth MPs had some contact or engagement with their MP or their MPs staff (Figure 5). Most received support from their MP or their staff, and many discussed community project idea(s) with them and attended community events with them. For most, their MP was easy to reach and they had regular contact with them.

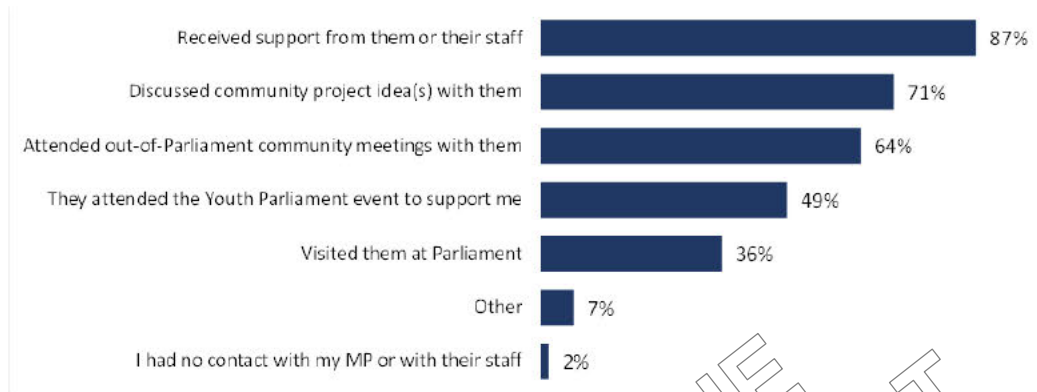


Figure 5. Engagement Youth MPs had with their MPs (Source: Survey responses, n=61)

Some Youth MPs described their experience with the 2022 Youth Parliament programme as being more self-led because their MP was busy. Despite this, many of them had good relationships with their MP.

I think my relationship with my MP was quite good. I didn't have much contact with him during the [Youth Parliament] event ... I only emailed him when I needed something more importantly. (Youth MP)

About two-thirds of Youth MPs had enough engagement with their MP (Figure 6).



Figure 6. Participant views about whether they had enough engagement with their MP (Source: Survey responses, n=61)

Youth MPs who had enough engagement with their MP were more likely to say their overall experience was very good (80% compared to 45%) (Figure 7).

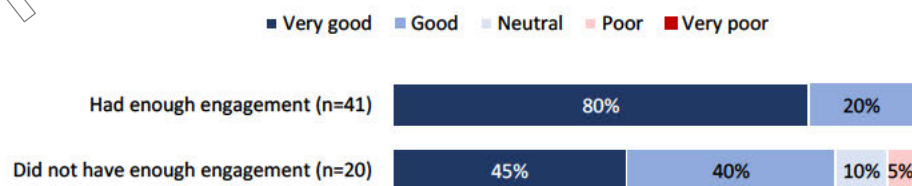


Figure 7. Correlation between participant engagement with their MP and their overall tenure experience (Source: Survey responses, n=61)

3.2.2. Youth Press Gallery members were closely supported by Youth Press Gallery editors

Youth Press Gallery members were closely supported by the OOC Communications Lead, and RNZ's *The House* editor and journalist. Many pitched ideas to them and were supported with writing feedback and pastoral care. The Communications Lead was also responsible for assigning Youth Press Gallery members to different parts of the Youth Parliament event. They provided a direct connection for Youth Press Gallery members to get their writing published through the Parliament website and *The House* (Radio New Zealand), whose editor supported participants with editing and publishing.

All surveyed Youth Press Gallery members received enough engagement and support from the Youth Press Gallery editors during the Youth Parliament tenure and event (Figure 8).

We could contact [the Press Gallery editors] on Facebook because we had a Facebook group. We also had their emails ... They're extremely easy to contact.
(Youth Press Gallery member)

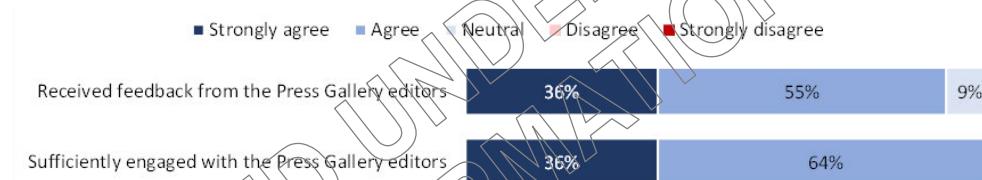


Figure 8. Youth Press Gallery member engagement with Youth Press Gallery editors
(Source: Survey responses, n=11)

3.2.3. The Youth Clerk was highly supported by OOC and Parliament staff

The Youth Clerk was closely supported by OOC and Parliament staff with mentorship, a training day at Parliament in April, educational opportunities and pastoral care. The Clerk and his staff were very easy to contact and the Youth Clerk felt well-supported during the Youth Parliament tenure and event.

Much of the Youth Clerk's work was focused on the development of Standing Orders for the Youth Parliament event, a new addition for 2022. The Youth Clerk prioritised inclusiveness and accessibility in the standing orders, including encouraging Youth MPs to use te reo Māori and updating rules on how Youth MPs engaged with each other. MYD completed a thematic analysis of the General Debate speeches and found an increase in the use of te reo Māori compared to 2019.

They met with OOC staff over Zoom to talk through the previous Youth Parliament Standing Orders and flag areas for improvement and worked closely with Parliament legal staff to make changes. The Clerk and Speaker of the House were also consulted, with OOC support, to confirm changes made.

The Youth Clerk spoke at the opening of Youth Parliament on behalf of participants, provided procedural advice to participants and the Speaker, and clerked a select

committee. They sat alongside either the Clerk or Deputy Clerk when the Youth MPs were in the House. They felt unsure about how to provide advice to the Speaker at the beginning, not wanting to interrupt, but that it was valuable having the Clerk or Deputy Clerk with them to encourage them, explain things and answer questions.

While they were assigned to clerk a select committee, the Youth Clerk felt their role became redundant once the chairperson had been appointed. However, they enjoyed being able to go between select committees and hear the different discussions between Youth MPs, noting they felt this was something Youth MPs missed out on.

The Youth Clerk said the training day was crucial to ensure they had a clear understanding of their role and what they needed to do. The Youth Clerk thought any young person could do the role with the level of support they received from OOC and Parliament staff.

3.3. Youth Parliament tenure

The Youth Parliament programme included a six-month tenure after participants were assigned to their roles. During this period all participants were invited to attend monthly online training sessions. In addition:

- Youth MPs attended an online national training, and engaged with their MP and their community.
- Youth Press Gallery members attended an in-person national training, and wrote and published articles focusing on local and political issues.
- The Youth Clerk attended a training day at Parliament, and worked to develop Standing Orders for the Youth Parliament event.

Most survey respondents (94% of Youth MPs and 82% of Youth Press Gallery members) rated their overall experience during the Youth Parliament tenure as good or very good (Figure 9).

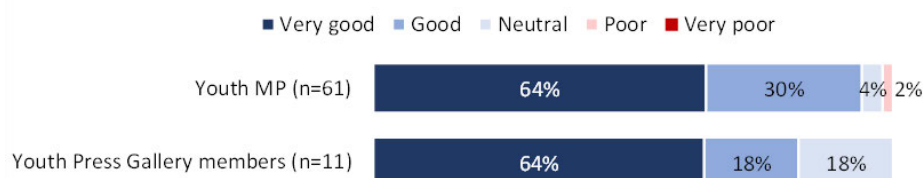


Figure 9. Participant overall experience during the Youth Parliament tenure (Source: Survey response)

3.3.1. Young people valued their training

All Youth MPs and Youth Press Gallery members were invited to OOC training sessions during the Youth Parliament tenure to educate them on Parliament and prepare them for the Youth Parliament event: a monthly training series and a training day in May 2022. The Youth Clerk attended the Standing Orders section of the day to introduce their role to the other participants and talk through the Standing Orders for the Youth Parliament event.

Most participants were satisfied with the monthly training series but had a less positive experience with the programme wrap-up in August (Figure 10).

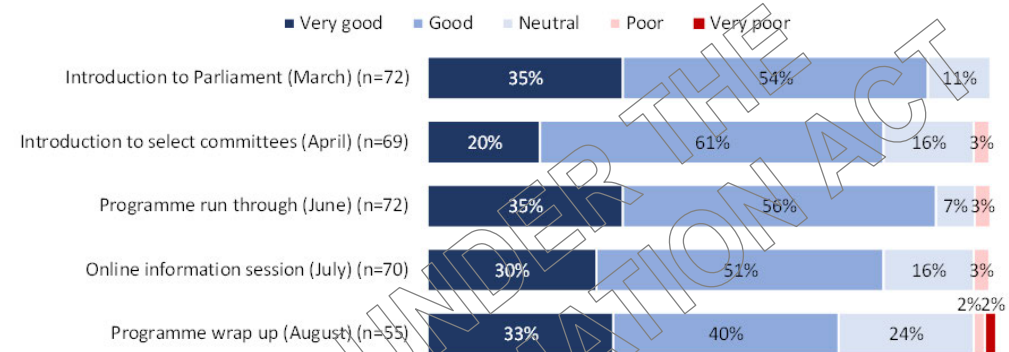


Figure 10. Participant views on the quality of the monthly training series. Note those who did not attend selected 'not applicable' and are excluded here (Source: Survey response)

Participants also enjoyed the training day in May 2022 and were most positive about The House 101 (Figure 11).

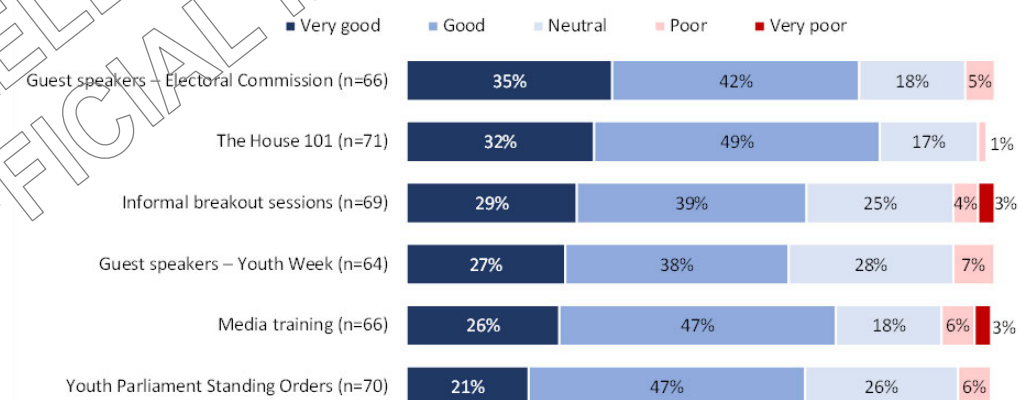


Figure 11. Participants views on the quality of the online training day in May (Source: Survey response)

While many shared the online trainings were useful in helping them prepare for the Youth Parliament event, others with existing knowledge found them less valuable.

I don't really like the ones about what happens in Parliament because I've already been involved in it. So personally, I didn't really find it useful. (Youth MP)

The online format was impersonal for some and did not allow young people to connect, while others found the trainings too long and unengaging.

*Some of the Zoom sessions are quite long, I felt like they could have been shorter.
(Youth MP)*

Youth Press Gallery members also attended a half-day in-person national training, which provided them insights on journalism writing and how Parliament works. They also had a tour of Parliament, including a lunch with Press Gallery Chairs and MPs.

Youth Press Gallery members really appreciated the opportunity to improve their writing skills and meet real Press Gallery Journalists, which provided positive experiences in preparation for the Youth Parliament event.

[The in-person training] was pretty critical for a lot of people in the Press Gallery ... [It] gave the foundation of what we'd be doing and a sense of preparedness and an urge to publish articles. It was the kick-off event for the tenure. (Youth Press Gallery member)

3.3.2. The majority of Youth MPs engaged with their community

During the Youth Parliament tenure, more than half (56%) of Youth MPs took part in a community project on the issues they were passionate about (Figure 12). Youth MPs were also encouraged to deliver a speech about voting at their own schools and the majority attended community events or engagements with their MP. This community engagement was valuable for the participants, but also extended the value of the Youth Parliament programme to the wider youth community. Community engagement was made more challenging in the COVID-19 environment and changes in personnel at MYD meant it was less of a focus than in previous programmes. Overall, one-quarter (25%) of the Youth MPs who completed the survey did not deliver any community project or speech during the Youth Parliament tenure.



Figure 12. Youth MP community engagement (Source: Survey responses, n=61)

Youth MPs delivered a wide range of community projects on issues that mattered to them, including:

- Youth and mental health issues.
- Sex and consent.
- Relationship education.

- Driver licence barriers.
- Lowering the voting age.
- Youth civics education.
- Promotion of community activities.

Youth MPs said their connections of their MPs were vital for completing their community project. Those whose MPs were not located in the same community noted their MP was limited in their ability to support their community project.

[My MP] set up an interview with [a Government official], which was really good. We talked about what I could do for my community project. I felt quite supported by her. (Youth MP)

Youth MPs spoke to various organisations and local schools and organised events in their community. Some Youth MPs supported their peers to complete their projects.

Youth MPs who did not complete a community project said this was due to capacity constraints and COVID-19 interruptions, while others could not connect with or get support from communities to complete them. Some Youth MPs were unsure of what they needed to do or could do.

I wish I had more support for my community projects. I was not sure about what to do or what is counted as a community project. (Youth MP)

3.3.3. Youth Press Gallery members wrote about local and political issues

Youth Press Gallery members were encouraged to complete and publish articles during the Youth Parliament tenure. Many published through *The House* (Radio New Zealand) and the Parliament website through the OOC Communications Lead, while some published elsewhere via their own media connections. Interviewed and surveyed Youth Press Gallery members published articles about:

- civics education
- lowering the voting age
- abolition of the starting out wage
- current political issues
- profiles of Youth MPs.

Some looked at past articles for inspiration, while others wrote about issues they wanted to share or discussed topic ideas with other Youth Parliament participants. Some Youth Press Gallery members worked collaboratively to write articles.

Youth Press Gallery members enjoyed the opportunity to engage with the community in putting together articles as a valuable learning experience.

[Community engagement] encouraged me to go out of my comfort zone. (Youth Press Gallery member)

Some Youth Press Gallery members did not publish any articles during the Youth Parliament tenure because of capacity constraints.

3.4. Youth Parliament event

3.4.1. Many young people were prepared for the Youth Parliament event

One of the main purposes of the Youth Parliament tenure was to prepare participants for the Youth Parliament event. Only two-thirds of survey respondents (66% of Youth MPs and 64% of Youth Press Gallery members) felt prepared to participate in the Youth Parliament event, with almost 20% of Youth MPs and 10% of Youth Press Gallery members feeling unprepared (Figure 13).

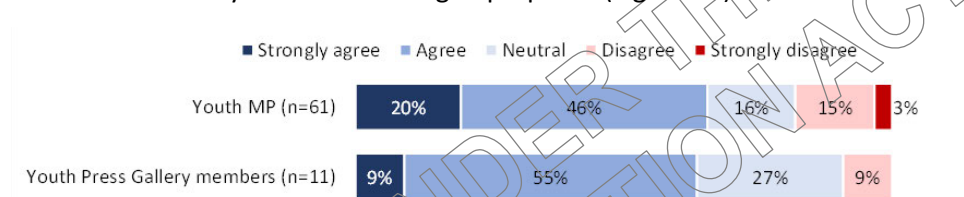


Figure 13. Participant views about whether they felt prepared for the Youth Parliament event (Source: Survey responses)

Most young people we interviewed were prepared to participate in the Youth Parliament event based on their prior experience and skills they had learnt from training and their adult counterparts. Some Youth MPs said their MP or MPs staff helped them to prepare their speech, while others prepared by themselves.

Some stakeholders said Youth MPs could benefit from access to speech writers to help prepare them for their general and legislative debates.

3.4.2. Youth MPs enjoyed the intensive three-days at Parliament

Almost all (92%) Youth MPs rated the Youth Parliament event as very good or good (Figure 14).



Figure 14. Youth MP overall experience of the Youth Parliament event (Source: Survey responses, n=61)

The orientation day at Parliament included a welcome/mihi whakatau, tour of Parliament, population group meetings and a social event. While some Youth MPs missed parts of the orientation day due to flight cancellations, those who did attend generally had a positive experience (Figure 15).

We got an awesome tour around the Beehive, got a great understanding of the building itself, when it got built and stuff like that and the architects and the paintings there, so that was awesome. (Youth MP)

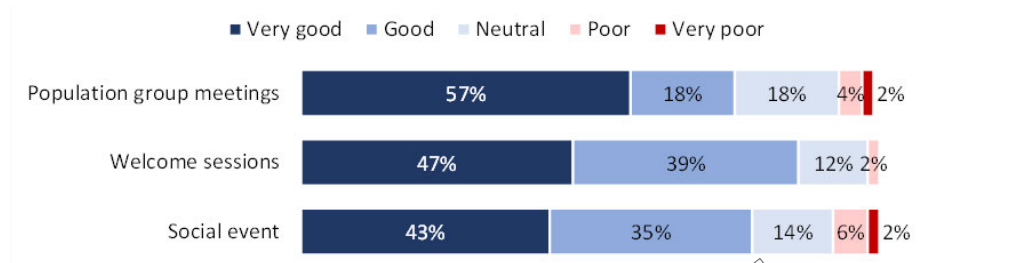


Figure 15. Youth MP satisfaction with orientation day activities (Source: Survey responses, n=49⁶)

The remaining two days included the opening of Youth Parliament, general and legislative debates, question time and select committees. Almost all surveyed Youth MPs had positive experiences with all activities we asked about (Figure 16).

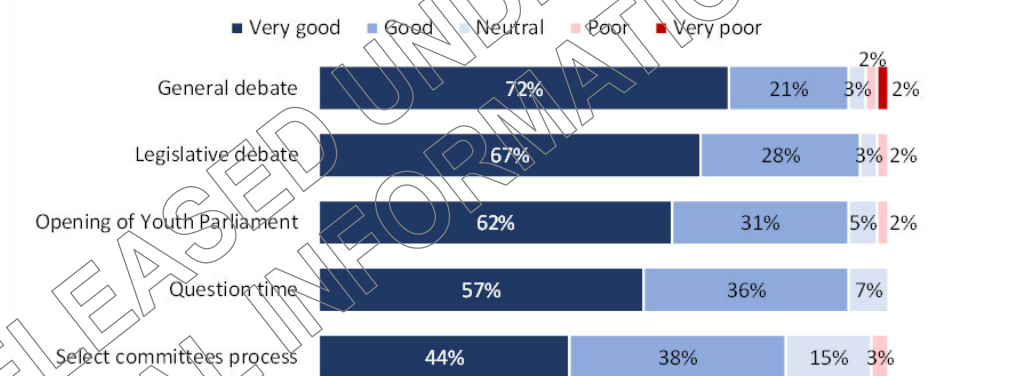


Figure 16. Youth MP satisfaction with Parliamentary activities (Source: Survey responses, n=61)

Youth MPs were assigned to ten select committees covering a range of issues and were provided background information and reading prior to the Youth Parliament event. During the select committees, Youth MPs elected a chairperson, spoke with Government officials, and heard from submitters who were mostly young people. A select committee report was produced with the support of Parliament staff and the chairperson reported back to the House.

Many interviewed Youth MPs enjoyed select committees because they created an opportunity to discuss an issue they were interested in with other young people. The chairperson played an important role in making sure the discussion ran smoothly

⁶ n=49 to remove 11 Youth MPs who did not attend the orientation activities due to flight cancellations.

because Youth MPs came into the select committees with different levels of preparedness and knowledge.

I really enjoyed the select committee ... We felt very listened to and [the chair] was amazing at just keeping the peace and then appearing to hear all sides. (Youth MP)

Youth MPs had the opportunity to deliver a general debate speech about an issue of their choice, a legislative debate speech about the mock bill, or ask questions of Ministers. All speeches and questions were broadcasted on Parliament TV for whānau and friends to watch. Many interviewed Youth MPs enjoyed completing a speech or asking questions of Ministers, as they could talk about issues that mattered to them and their community. Others enjoyed being able to speak in the House and have their whānau watch.

[The best bits for me] was the question time. Because it was just interesting hearing how the Prime Minister responded to the questions and the questions that were being asked. (Youth MP)

The legislative debate speeches contributed to a vote of Youth MPs on the Minimum Wage (Starting-Out Wage Abolition) Amendment Bill. While young people enjoyed the legislative debate, some stakeholders were unsure if the mock bill was the best use of the Youth Parliament event time.

I want to say the mock bill is quite important, but I actually don't think it is. And I think it's pretty rare that young people are going to be engaged in the legislative process again, and I don't necessarily think that's the best way to teach young people about the legislative process (Stakeholder)

The Make it 16 campaign, a youth-led campaign that advocated for lowering the voting age to 16 years formed out of Youth Parliament 2019 and has continued since. It was discussed by Youth MPs at the Youth Parliament event and became a sensitive topic after heated debate between the affirmative and opposing sides.

A large number of Youth MPs walked out of the House in protest against a speech many considered offensive. The Youth MPs we interviewed did not consider it an issue, but some stakeholders were more concerned. Some felt it was a reasonable response consistent with the approach their adult counterparts were entitled to take. Others thought it was important to listen and contest the ideas presented and that the walk-out went against the spirit of the Youth Parliament event.

I think a lot of young people need to understand, while getting up and leaving during the debate is legitimate protest that you can use, you should probably save it for when it really means something like if someone is genuinely being bigoted, rather than when they say something you disagree with. (Youth MP)

Many young people shared feeling very drained and exhausted by the end of the Youth Parliament event.

The event is quite condensed ... By the end of it, a lot of us are very tired and we were ready to go home. And so we weren't able to give our full attention to people who were doing finishing speeches. (Youth MP)

3.4.3. Youth Press Gallery enjoyed the Youth Parliament event

Youth Press Gallery members participated in the orientation day with Youth MPs and were assigned to different parts of the remaining two days by the OOC Communications Lead. This created some structure for the Youth Press Gallery members, but they had the autonomy to choose what they wrote about and could roam between activities and engage with Youth MPs. All Youth Press Gallery members who attended the Youth Parliament event rated it as good or very good (Figure 17).



Figure 17. Youth Press Gallery member overall experience of the Youth Parliament event (Source: Survey responses, n=10⁷)

The majority enjoyed the orientation day activities, but were less positive about the social event compared with the Youth MPs (Figure 18).

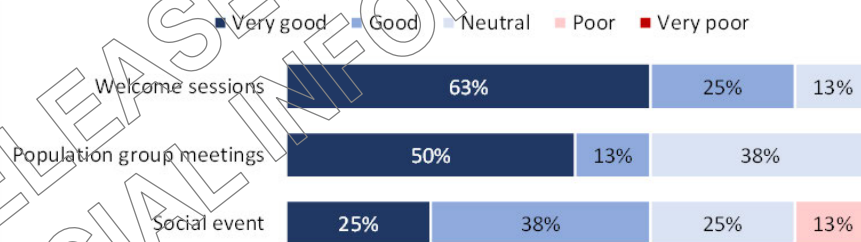
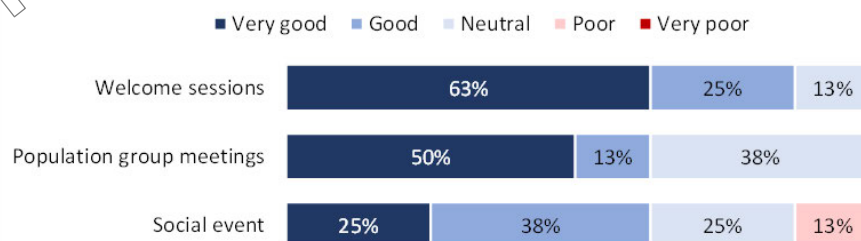


Figure 18).



⁷ Where one Youth Press Gallery member did not attend the Youth Parliament event due to COVID-19.

Figure 18. Youth Press Gallery member satisfaction with orientation day activities (Source: Survey responses, n=8⁸)

Youth Press Gallery members seemed far more positive about the Parliamentary activities on day two and three, although some had a negative experience with the select committee process (Figure 19). One interviewed Youth Press Gallery member said the ability to report on a select committee was dependent on the quality of discussion in the select committee and some select committees did not produce sufficient content to write about.

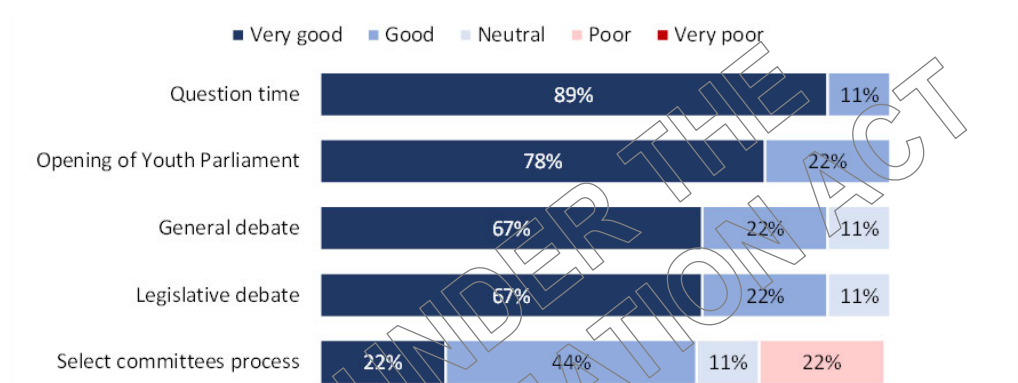


Figure 19. Youth Press Gallery member satisfaction of Parliamentary activities (Source: Survey responses, n=9⁹)

Youth Press Gallery members had a designated workspace during the Youth Parliament event and valued having their own space away from the activities to write and relax.

[We] had our own room that was separate to everyone else. That was quite helpful because we had our own space and if we need to decompress, we'll go in there ... I thought that was quite good for wellbeing, just having that physical separation away from others. (Youth Press Gallery member)

They were closely connected as a group despite their ages ranging from 17 to 23 at the time of the Youth Parliament event¹⁰. Older Youth Press Gallery members provided mentorship and support to younger members, while younger members offered a perspective closer matching the Youth MPs, who were of the same age.

Interviewed and surveyed Youth Press Gallery members published articles about:

- Pasifika experience of Youth Parliament

⁸ n=8 to remove two Youth Press Gallery members who did not attend the orientation activities.

⁹ n=9 to remove one Youth Press Gallery member who attended day two and three of the Youth Parliament event but did not rate individual activities.

¹⁰ Youth Press Gallery roles were open to a wider age range of young people than Youth MPs, who needed to be aged 16 to 18 years to apply to for their role.

- mock bill debate
- Make it 16 campaign
- interviews with Youth MPs.

As for the Youth Parliament tenure, some Youth Press Gallery members did not publish work about the Youth Parliament event because of capacity constraints after the event.

All Youth Press Gallery members were invited to a meeting after the Youth Parliament event with the Youth Press Gallery editors, including the OOC Communications Lead and the editor for *The House*. Most (75%) Youth Press Gallery members attended the meeting. The Youth Press Gallery editors collected Youth Press Gallery members' feedback at the meeting and discussed internship opportunities with them.

[After the Youth Parliament event we were] asking them to make pitches for whether they wanted to be involved in the internship. And part of that was also informing them that we were going to be continuing to want pitches from them for stories for which we would potentially pay for the publishing. (Stakeholder)

3.4.4. Most participants enjoyed the food, accommodation, and transport

Most Youth MPs and Youth Press Gallery members had positive experiences with the food, accommodation, and transport available to them during the Youth Parliament event, although some had negative experiences with transport and food (Figure 20).

I think some of our young people were not really happy with the food or the quantity of food. More food, more options. Some of the young people were like, 'What is this kind of food?' 'Too bougie.' Or it's food that young people aren't familiar with and therefore not fulfilling. (Stakeholder)

On the Monday, there was a bit of confusion with buses, getting from Parliament to our hotel ... And then there was the closing of Parliament, but people were having to run away to be on planes. (Youth MP)

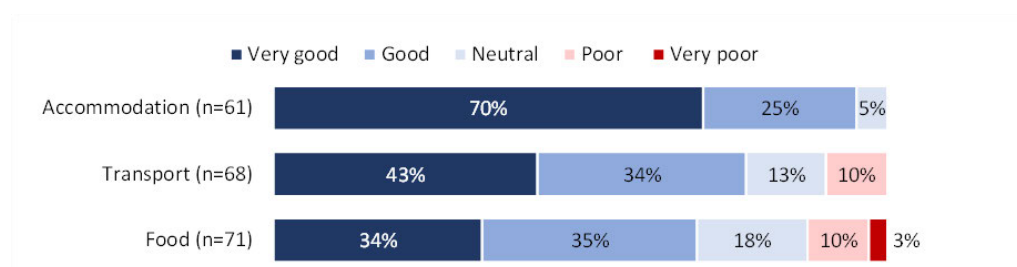


Figure 20. Participant views about accommodation, transport, and food (Source: Survey responses)

3.4.5. Maintaining the apolitical nature of Youth Parliament was difficult

Youth Parliament is described as apolitical because Youth MPs are not expected to represent their adult counterpart's political party or views. MPs are encouraged not to be party political in their support for the Youth MPs. While the Youth MPs we interviewed did not feel bound to represent the views of their MP, many did find the event political and thought some Youth MPs chose to represent party lines.

A lot of people had less knowledge than me and went in wanting to learn. I could tell they struggled with super political bias that people had. (Youth MP)

Ideally, it would be to set aside their political position. And it's more to work with a Youth MP around the development of their skill sets. (Stakeholder)

Stakeholders thought this year's event was more political than in the past. The increased focus on the Parliamentary event rather than the community engagement emphasised its more political aspects. Stakeholders also thought some Youth MPs were representing the views of their MPs or that MP staff had contributed to their speech writing.

I think it's good that people were choosing people that aligned with their party values. But I think inherently that made Youth Parliament a party event, when the whole idea is that it's party neutral, because everyone was like, I support certain party values. (Youth MP)

Some thought the selection process and the inherently political nature of Parliament pushed the programme towards being more political. Interaction with MPs in their political roles could create pressure, intentional or not, to promote a similar political perspective. Most stakeholders thought additional guidance and support for MPs in their role as apolitical supports for Youth MPs could help but acknowledged the challenges with capacity.

I think there just needs to be a bit of briefing on how to support your young person to go through the process and to also ensure that agendas are not pushed on to them. (Stakeholder)

Some Youth MPs and stakeholders believed it was important to be apolitical so the programme could focus on youth development, while others saw the Parliament event as unavoidably political.

We should realise that this is a place that you can only get into if you are politicised ... No one's gonna get in as an independent, not in the next few decades I don't think. So we need to kind of make it as real as possible, and that even comes down to that party affiliations and all that kind of stuff as well. (Stakeholder)

In contrast to Youth MPs, Youth Press Gallery members and the Youth Clerk had a more apolitical experience as they were encouraged by their adult counterparts to write from an apolitical perspective and provide apolitical advice.

As a Youth Press Gallery member, we were pretty neutral in terms of the political debates that were taking place at the [Youth Parliament] event. Our role was more to just to write about them. (Youth Press Gallery member)

3.5. Support for Youth Parliament participants

Stakeholders wanted a diverse group of participants and understood the importance of providing different options for support so participants could choose what fit their needs best.

And those are their [diverse] life experiences that they are coming with, which is what we kind of ask for them to speak from or we ask for them to bring into the space. So how best do we nurture that or look after that in the same way that we have invited it in. (Stakeholder)

Both MYD and OOC staff were involved in providing support. Most survey respondents felt well supported and had their questions and concerns addressed (Figure 21).

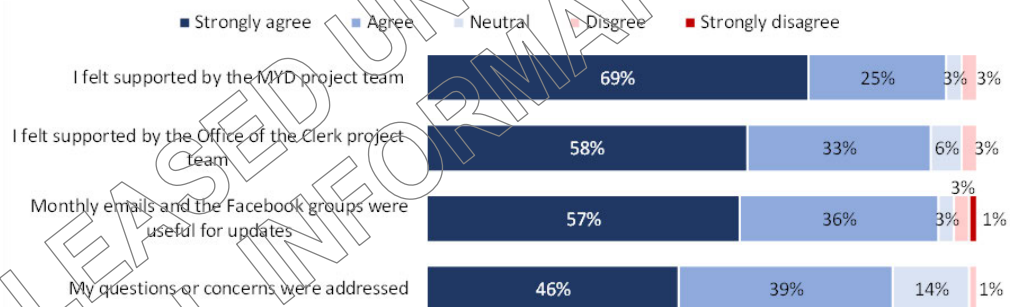


Figure 21. Participant views about different programme supports (Source: Survey responses, n=72)

OOC sent participants monthly emails throughout the Youth Parliament tenure and created official Facebook groups for participants. These were the primary channels for communication. The Facebook groups served as forums for participants to ask questions or raise concerns.

MYD also ran several drop-in Zoom sessions for Youth MPs and Youth Press Gallery members to attend in the lead up to the Youth Parliament event, including an initial session to introduce young people and their whānau to the chaperones, the Wellbeing Team and the wider MYD team. These sessions were another opportunity for participants to meet staff but were not well attended by young people. OOC led the pastoral care support for the Youth Clerk, however they were introduced and connected with the Wellbeing Team during their training day at Parliament.

Stakeholders felt an opportunity was missed to provide wellbeing support during the Youth Parliament tenure and that participants could benefit from support to

navigate power dynamics from working with adult counterparts and juggling work, school, and Youth Parliament commitments.

Just being able to check in with the young person and how might they feel a better resourced or supported, even being in one-to-one zooms or meeting in their local MPs offices, and talking through the projects that they're working on. And how much ownership they have about or how obligated they might feel or whether they can push back, or say no. What does that look like? (Stakeholder)

3.5.1. Support in the Youth Parliament event

Most survey participants were positive about the support they received during the Youth Parliament event (Figure 22).

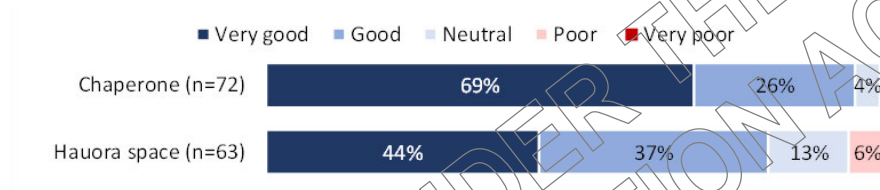


Figure 22. Participant views about wellbeing support during Youth Parliament event (Source: Survey responses)).

Almost all (96%) felt well supported by their chaperone and many had positive experiences with the hauora space.

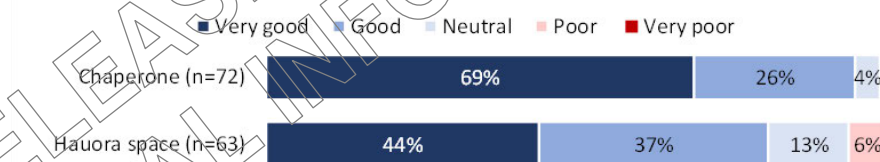


Figure 22. Participant views about wellbeing support during Youth Parliament event (Source: Survey responses)

Chaperones were the key point of contact, support, and resource for participants during the Youth Parliament event. They attended all three days and spent time with participants during the day and at their accommodation. The chaperone team was made up of MYD staff, including Regional Relationship Managers and other MYD officials, who came from across Aotearoa New Zealand. They were also diverse in ethnicities and gender identity.

Youth MPs were allocated to chaperones based on the select committee they were assigned to. Youth Press Gallery members had their own chaperone. Participants varied in their level of engagement with the chaperones. Some met their chaperone remotely in advance of the Youth Parliament event and received ongoing support, while others did not meet their chaperone until the Youth Parliament event.

My chaperone was very supportive. He was just there like, so anyone could go to him for anything. After I did my speech, he was just talking through the experience or things with me. (Youth MP)

The Wellbeing Team was new to the Youth Parliament programme in 2022. It was comprised of three counsellors and a staff member from the Office of the Children's Commissioner. Together they facilitated the hauora space, a place for participants to relax, decompress, eat, and drink, and talk with trained professionals. Many stakeholders made positive comments about the pastoral care support provided to young people, noting the Wellbeing Team was a necessary addition to this programme, but some felt the Wellbeing Team could be more visible to young people across the Youth Parliament event.

The second day I went to the wellbeing team as I was very like drained. I went to them. So there was a space outside that you could just like unwind for a little, that was good. (Youth MP)

One gender diverse young person we spoke with felt MYD had done all they could to support gender diversity, and that it was more down to participants' intolerances that made their experience difficult.

I guess, you're never going to be able to eliminate intolerance. I think it'd be very hard to do. I think, honestly, what MYD has done has been at the best of what they can do. (Youth MP)

On the other hand, one participant said complaints of bullying after the Youth Parliament event were ignored by MYD.

We got an email from the Minister of Youth Development team, saying that if you're getting [bullying] after the [Youth Parliament] event, just switch off your social media. And not offering a lot of support ... We found that was felt really insensitive. (Youth MP)

Stakeholders said some considerations were made to make Youth Parliament physically accessible for young people, such as allowing participants in wheelchairs to speak from the Hansard desk. One chaperone felt limited in their ability to support youth with physical disabilities because they did not have the skill set to support these youth and relied on whānau to provide care. They thought youth with disabilities could benefit from access to trained support staff.

I feel that, specifically for our young people with physical disabilities, we need to ensure that they have trained professionals on standby or just there in support of them, regardless of whether their family members come along ... [an untrained professional] doesn't do this young person justice, for their experience. (Stakeholder)

Others said time to debrief after the discussion of sensitive topics, such as experiences of care experienced young people, could further encourage these young people to share.

Some of the pastoral care support available to participants continued after the Youth Parliament event. Two members of the Wellbeing Team offered drop-in sessions for participants, but no young people attended. A stakeholder from the Wellbeing Team felt this may have been due to Wellbeing Team's perceived association with MYD and OOC. Some young people continued to reach out to their chaperones.

Talking to a group of Youth MPs at Youth Parliament, one young person, one youth MP, said that it would be unlikely that either them or anyone else from their cohort would reach out to any one perceived to be a part of this entire programme ... that we would be seen as not a safe place to go. (Stakeholder)

One stakeholder suggested that providing a neutral space to debrief about the Youth Parliament event could be valuable for any participants who did not feel able to talk to the team delivering the programme. They thought reminding participants that the Wellbeing Team is not MYD or OOC staff could be beneficial for this.

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4. Value of the 2022 Youth Parliament programme

Youth Parliament 2022 was a special and unique experience for the participants. While the benefits of the programme are largely concentrated on the participants, the intended benefits extend beyond the participants to the wider community of young people and Parliament and the Government (Figure 23). It is clear that Youth Parliament had some benefit to other young people, albeit limited to politically interested young people or peers and whānau of participants. Youth Parliament was a significant investment from OOC, MYD, and MSD and stakeholders raised that it was important to consider the resource invested alongside the benefits to the participants directly and the extent to which they extended to the wider community of young people and other stakeholders.

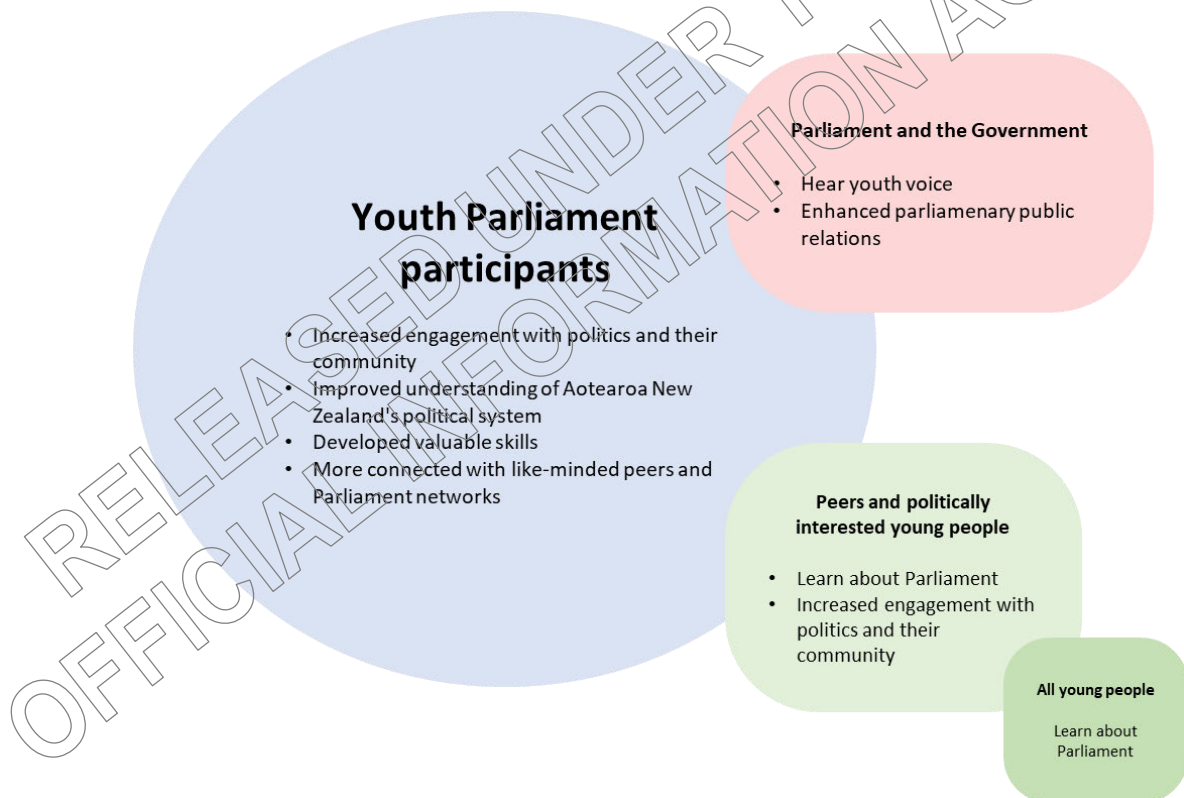


Figure 23. Value of Youth Parliament to participants and wider

4.1. Participants were more positive than in 2019

Comparison of 2019 and 2022 survey¹¹ results suggests participants:

- had more engagement with their adult counterparts
- were more satisfied with the level of engagement with their adult counterparts
- rated their overall experience higher
- experienced more political and community engagement.

4.2. Participants benefited from taking part in Youth Parliament

4.2.1. Participants increased engagement with politics and their community

Young people demonstrated more political and community engagement after participating in the programme. The survey response showed that most respondents had increased their political engagement (85%) and community engagement (73%) since being a part of Youth Parliament (Figure 24).

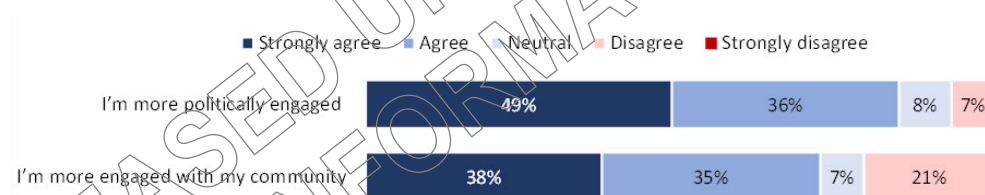


Figure 24. Participant political and community engagement after participating in Youth Parliament (Source: Survey responses, n=72)

Many of the participants had an interest with politics before the programme. That motivated some to take part. Replication of the Parliamentary process improved their understanding of Aotearoa New Zealand's political system. Examples included learning more about Parliament, political parties, how the House of Representatives operates, how the select committee works, and being involved in the legislative process. Interviewed young people and stakeholders both identified the increasing understanding of the Parliamentary process were key learnings for young people.

[Youth Parliament] definitely made me a lot more engaged with Parliament. I always had an understanding of how it works, but it definitely feels a lot clearer that I've got to see it happen. (Youth Press Gallery member)

¹¹ Note there was a much higher response to the 2022 survey than the 2019 survey (72 compared to 21). Comparison therefore provides useful indications of differences but are not conclusive.

Interviews with participants suggested these learnings increased their engagement and changed how they saw Parliament.

I think Youth Parliament helped me engage with politics in general, as beforehand I sort of had a negative view of politics and how it works. So Youth Parliament to me was really like, they actually do things that matters, and you can contribute to that. (Youth MP)

Young people felt Youth Parliament enabled them to put more thought into who they are going to vote for in the future.

When I do become able to vote, I will be able to say comfortable and confidently I know how Parliament works, I know the processes that they do, and I think definitely go towards me making a decision when I come to vote. (Youth MP)

Interviewed young people also showed more interest in connecting with their own community and engaging in community events. Some were already engaged with their communities and volunteered regularly, but the programme had strengthened their feelings around engaging with community.

The programme also helped participants decide whether they wanted their interest in politics to be something they pursued as a career. The experience helped some decide to change to a focus on politics, while others decided to look at other options.

It's made me want to change my career. I wanted to go into science and marine biology. But next year, I have now applied to everywhere for political science, international relations, and see if they will help me if I can work in the [political space]. (Youth MP)

I think the experience has made me realise that actually, the type of people that are involved in politics and the way that it comes about isn't actually something that interests me anymore. I enjoyed [the Youth Parliament event], but this is not how I want to spend the rest of my life. (Youth MP)

4.2.2. Participants developed valuable skills

The Youth Parliament programme provided young people with opportunities to develop a wide range of skills. Almost all survey respondents (96%) have gained valuable skills through the programme (Figure 25).



Figure 25. Participant views on whether they gained valuable skills during Youth Parliament
(Source: Survey responses, n=72)

The Youth MPs we interviewed described improvements in their:

- leadership skills
- confidence
- communication skills – written and verbal
- understanding of a wider range of perspectives.

I think Youth Parliament has given me lots and lots of confidence to be able to go out into my community with ideas and say, hey, actually, I can make a change, and I am willing to push a little bit harder. (Youth MP)

All interviewed Youth Press Gallery members highlighted their development of writing skills and interviewing skills through the programme. They also gained more understandings about the Press Gallery Editor role and political journalism.

I definitely learnt a lot about writing and how to write for like journalism and writing to the right audience, and making sure your work is really reasonable and accessible to a wide range of ages. (Youth Press Gallery member)

4.2.3. **Participants connected with like-minded peers and Parliament networks**

Most interviewed Youth MPs met at least some of the others during the Youth Parliament tenure. The majority of Youth MPs had connected with other Youth MPs with similar political views or from the same region, while Youth Press Gallery members met at their in-person national training.

During the Youth Parliament event, young people enjoyed socialising with like-minded peers from different backgrounds. The participants and stakeholders both highlighted the value of talking with other young people about youth issues.

Politics is an area not everyone's into, but for two days [we're] in an environment where you're around those kinds of people and they're also of the same age as you. (Youth Press Gallery member)

Many interviewed participants have stayed in contact with the young people they met during the programme.

I definitely made like lifelong friends with a lot of them. I think I had a great time meeting people. And I met someone through Youth Parliament, who's now my best friend. (Youth MP)

Some have built good relationships with their MPs or the Press Gallery editors through their participation in Youth Parliament, where young people found useful resources to develop their career path.

Now I've got a job in Parliament working as a communications adviser. (Youth MP)

They've said, 'Feel free to put us as references in the future if you need'. (Youth Press Gallery member)

Some Youth MPs wanted more opportunities to talk to the Youth Press Gallery members. Many felt the Youth Clerk was helpful in getting advice about standing orders.

The Youth Clerk was amazing. I wanted to do a motion without notice, and she was able to put across what I needed to do and gave me that information, and discussions with other Youth MPs. (Youth MP)

Outside of the participant group, some Youth MPs connected with students in school leadership positions in their area during the Youth Parliament tenure. They thought the connections were beneficial for their personal networks and connection to their communities.

4.3. The Government and Parliament heard youth voice

The Youth Parliament event created a space for the Government and Parliament to hear directly from young people. The event brings the voice of 120 Youth MPs, the Youth Clerk, and 19 Youth Press Gallery members to Parliament. Question time, general and legislative debates, and select committees were times for young people to speak about the issues that mattered for them.

Half of surveyed young people (50%) thought issues raised by them had been heard by key decision makers, while nearly one-third (30%) felt their voice was disregarded (Figure 26).

I think it was more up to MPs and Government workers if they chose to come and listen. (Youth MP)

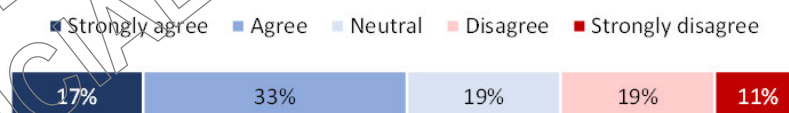


Figure 26. Participant views on whether issues raised by young people were heard by key decision makers (Source: Survey responses, n=72)

Interviewed stakeholders noted the value of the select committee component in sharing youth voice, as the chairperson of each youth select committee was required to report to the House during Youth Parliament and all reported to their real select committees.

I was in the primary production select committee, and we were asked back by the primary production select committee, so the actual select committee, to come and report on our report and further expand. (Youth MP)

The social event and engagement with Youth MPs' adult counterparts through the Youth Parliament tenure were also opportunities for the political leadership to hear from young people directly. Not all MPs engaged with those opportunities.

It's definitely, especially to youth, the message that, hey, actually, it doesn't matter what you are, we have a valid set of opinions that can be shared. (Youth MP)

Stakeholders described how youth voice had contributed to their work including:

- Legislative and general debate speeches informing the MYD Youth Plan.
- MPs listening to question time, and general and legislative debates.
- Government agency staff hearing feedback from the mock bill.
- Contribution of select committee feedback in real select committees.
- Media and social media attention.

Stakeholders and participants criticised a lack of mandate for Parliament and Government agencies to listen to and engage with youth shared during the programme and felt it was a missed opportunity to gather valuable insights on youth issues. This was especially noted for the mock bill feedback where participants saw MPs set aside their feedback.

I think it would be cool if there were a requirement for agencies who supported us with work on the select committee process to then receive back the briefings that have been written by the young people and kind of incorporate that into the work programs. (Stakeholder)

4.4. Some benefits extended beyond the participants

Stakeholders suggested that Youth Press Gallery members published more content and more quality content than in previous Youth Parliament programmes. The articles published by the group were one of the main ways for Youth Parliament to reach the wider community of both young people and adults.

[Youth Press Gallery members] published, I would think, probably three times as much content as they did last [time] in Youth Parliament ... A lot more content, and a lot better content. (Stakeholder)

Stakeholders thought more avenues could be explored to raise the profile of the Youth Parliament event, such as giving Youth Press Gallery members access to the Parliament website and social media.

[I wonder] whether we could have a few more people in the [Press] Gallery by just handing over the logins to the Parliament, website and social media during that time and the Youth Press Gallery themselves run all our external media that week. (Stakeholder)

4.4.1. Young people positively influenced their peers

The participants extended a positive influence to their peers and their wider communities. Two-thirds of survey respondents (67%) agreed their peers are more politically engaged as a result of their participation in Youth Parliament (Figure 27).

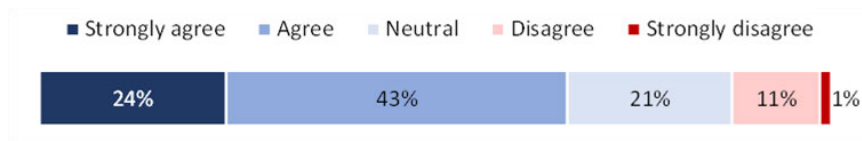


Figure 27. Participant views on whether their peers are more politically engaged because of Youth Parliament (Source: Survey responses, n=72)

Youth MPs described encouraging other young people to use their voice and continue to engage in the community. Many thought that their friends and family became more politically engaged or showed more interest in Parliament.

A lot of [my friends] wouldn't be interested in the Parliament process, but having someone they knew that had written an article about it got them to engage in those problems. (Youth Press Gallery member)

Participants also encouraged their peers to vote, share their views in select committees or participate in future Youth Parliament events.

Some participants encountered challenges in reaching other young people who were not already interested in politics.

I definitely tried to [reach other people] because I had an Instagram account, but the people who follow that Instagram account are the ones that are engaged with politics anyway. (Youth MP).

Some stakeholders shared hoping participants would report back to their community after participating in Youth Parliament to share their experiences and learnings.

I hope that [participants] are champions for Parliament ... who are sharing their experience. (Stakeholder)

4.4.2. Youth Parliament media reached a wider group of young people

The publicity of Youth Parliament provided a way for young people to learn about Parliament. They could watch their friends and whānau participate on Parliament TV and hear about it on social media and other media. Some said having a space for whānau and friends to attend Youth Parliament could further this engagement.

I've talked to my friends about it. And I think in general, a lot of my them saw what was happening on social media and kind of got into think about that. And there was also quite a lot of media coverage on it, too. So I think it definitely got people thinking about Parliament and seeing that like young people are engaged with it. (Youth Press Gallery member)

Having young people submit in Youth Parliament select committees provides a unique insight for them to the select committee process, which may increase their likelihood to participate in select committees or participate in future Youth Parliament programmes.

[Submitting in a Youth Parliament select committee] gives people that perhaps [are] maybe too nervous to submit to an actual committee, or may not recognise, may go, 'oh I'm not sure if I should do or if I have enough insight to submit to an actual committee'. At least they submit to a youth committee and realise how relaxed it is and actually how it's just about your view, and then feel inspired to come and submit further. (Stakeholder)

Involving young people in other parts of the programme, such as in the selection of Youth MPs could increase the likelihood of young people voting in the future.

One MP invited all young people who applied to be their Youth MP to visit Parliament and connect with Parliament networks.

4.4.3. Enhanced parliamentary public relations

Youth Parliament provided a vehicle to promote positive parliamentary public relations. It helped showcase how Parliament works, that it can be accessible for young people and that youth voice is valuable. Apart from the broadcasting on Parliament TV, the articles published by Youth Press Gallery members and the media coverage of the programme were the main avenues to enhance parliamentary public relations. Stakeholders noticed a high volume of media coverage of the Youth Parliament event. These stories and articles had the potential to reach the general public and enabled them to learn about Parliament.

A lot of [media coverage] was slightly different content than what would often be given, and all of that makes Parliament more open to public, because it's not just people talking about politics, it's talking about parliament, and there is a major difference. (Stakeholder)

5. Summary and recommendations

The 2022 Youth Parliament programme provided a unique opportunity for 140 young people to be more involved in their community, receive an in-depth look at how Parliament works, and to express their views on topics that matter to them. The experience is uniquely valuable for the participants. The benefits to the wider community of young people, Parliament, and the Government could be areas of focus for making the most of the large investment of resource from both MYD and OOC.

Table 3 summarises the evaluation findings and highlights opportunities for development of future Youth Parliament programmes.

Table 3. Summary of the evaluation findings and suggestions for future Youth Parliament programmes

Evaluation findings	Opportunities to strengthen the Youth Parliament programme
What changed in the delivery of the Youth Parliament programme and what effects did the changes have?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OOC led and implemented the Youth Parliament event. • MYD continued to lead youth development support for participants. • MSD continued to provide policy support. • The move to joint delivery governed by the MOU between OOC and MYD strengthened the delivery for 2022. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend the benefits of joint delivery between OOC and MYD by reviewing the process and continuing to clarify roles and responsibilities. • Involve a wider group of agencies to extend the benefits across Government: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ consider greater contribution by Youth Policy function of MSD to the design of the programme. ○ introduce Ministry of Education to use Youth Parliament to contribute to a civics education piece and create an opportunity for participants and their wider community to learn about voting and engaging with the machinery of Government. ○ include alumni voice to the design of the programme.
How did young people experience the 2022 Youth Parliament programme?	
Application and selection process	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selection processes for Youth MPs varied across the country. • Stakeholders felt participants were more representative of the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase application and selection process guidance for MPs: Provide more information to MPs about selecting a Youth MP, including what others have done in the past and what other MPs are doing.

Evaluation findings	Opportunities to strengthen the Youth Parliament programme
Aotearoa New Zealand population than in previous programmes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continue to increase diversity of Youth Parliament participants: Promote Youth Parliament as an event for all young people, not just those with leadership experience or political connections. The concentration of the many outcomes in the participant group increases the importance of the selection process being accessible.
Youth Parliament tenure	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Engagement and contact with adult counterparts varied for Youth MPs, but was more consistent for Youth Press Gallery members and the Youth Clerk. ● The majority of young people engaged with their community. ● Youth Press Gallery members published a range of articles on local and political issues. ● Participants enjoyed their various trainings, but found in-person sessions more valuable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increase guidance for MPs: Provide more information for MPs about Youth Parliament, including what role MPs are expected to play in supporting Youth MPs and what Youth MPs should complete during Youth Parliament. Include examples of previous success stories. ● Provide more clarity for MPs about their role in supporting Youth MPs: More clarity about role of MPs in providing apolitical support and supporting community engagement. ● Set clear expectations of Youth MPs for community engagement: Post-COVID-19 there is an opportunity to clarify expectations for Youth MP community engagement. This could be in the form of a minimum requirement for Youth MPs to engage with their community and collect and share community voice. ● Increase in-person training: Utilise in-person training as much as possible. If online training is needed, make it shorter, more digestible, and more interactive.
Youth Parliament event	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The majority of participants felt prepared for the Youth Parliament event, but a large group did not. ● Most young people had positive experience during the event, but Youth MPs agreed it was intensive. ● Youth Press Gallery members published a range of articles about the event and Youth MPs. ● The event was more political than in previous programmes, but Youth Press Gallery members and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Extend pre-event educational opportunities for participants: Create opportunities for Youth MPs to engage with speech writers to assist with development of their speeches, prepare young people for navigating different perspectives, and increase familiarity with Youth Parliament standing orders. ● Continue to refine the Youth Parliament Standing Orders to make the Youth Parliament event youth-friendly: The role of the Youth Clerk and the Youth Parliament Standing Orders was important. Planning time for applause and considering removing some of the more difficult to plan aspects of debate (for example, motions without notice) in the House could make it easier to manage without reducing its value for participants.

Evaluation findings	Opportunities to strengthen the Youth Parliament programme
the Youth Clerk were encouraged to be apolitical.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Focus the parliamentary activities on the most valuable components: Simplify parliamentary activities and make them less information heavy. Consider opportunities to remove events altogether, such as the mock bill. Consider the value of adding opportunities for more debate between participants and time for debrief after the sharing of sensitive topics. ● Create working spaces for Youth MPs: Have working spaces available to Youth MPs, like the space available to Youth Press Gallery, with printing facilities.
Supporting Youth Parliament participants	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Young people felt well-supported by MYD and OOC and had very positive experiences with their chaperones. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increase opportunities to engage with Wellbeing Team: Create opportunities for participants to engage with wellbeing supports during the Youth Parliament tenure, increase visibility of Wellbeing Team during the Youth Parliament event, and distinguish the Wellbeing Team from MYD and OOC staff. ● Further improve support for youth with disabilities: Provide access to trained professionals to support youth with disabilities to participate.
How did participating young people benefit? What benefits extended to their peers and the wider community?	
<p>Value for participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increased engagement with politics and their community. ● Improved understanding of Aotearoa New Zealand's political system. ● Developed valuable skills ● More connected with like-minded peers and Parliament networks. <p>Value for Parliament and the Government:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hear youth voice. ● Enhanced Parliamentary public relations. <p>Value for all young people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Learn about Parliament. 	<p>If benefits to the wider community are an important outcome of the Youth Parliament programme they could be enhanced by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Further raise the profile of the Youth Parliament event: Set up a webpage and social media channel for Youth Press Gallery members during the event. ● Increase community engagement with Youth Parliament: Encourage participants to report back to their community about their experience and learnings, have a space for friends and whānau to attend and engage with the Youth Parliament event, and potentially involve young people in the selection process.

Evaluation findings	Opportunities to strengthen the Youth Parliament programme
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased engagement with politics and their community. 	

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Appendix 1: Evaluation Framework

High-level questions	Sub-questions	Data Sources
What was changed in the delivery of the Youth Parliament programme and what effects did the changes have?		
What did increased collaboration between MYD and OOC mean for Youth Parliament 2022?	What was the intention of increasing collaboration between MYD and OOC for participants?	Interviews with stakeholders
	How did MYD create positive youth development opportunities and provide support for participants?	Interviews with stakeholders
	How did OOC lead and implement the two-day Youth Parliament event? What did this mean for participants? How was the event promoted to the public and media?	Interviews with stakeholders
What was recommended in the 2020 evaluation, but was not changed in the delivery of the Youth Parliament programme?	What recommendations were not implemented? Why were recommendations not implemented?	Interviews with stakeholders
How did young people experience the 2022 Youth Parliament programme?		
How did young people become involved with the programme?	How did young people hear about Youth Parliament?	Survey of young people
	How were Youth MPs selected to participate in the programme? Did selection differ across the regions?	Interviews with stakeholders and young people
	Were participants representative of the Aotearoa New Zealand population?	Survey of young people
How did young people experience the six-month Youth Parliament programme?	What role did MPs, Press Gallery members and the Clerk of the House play in the programme? How did they interact with young people?	Interviews with stakeholders and young people, survey of young people
	What opportunities did young people have in the six-month Youth Parliament programme?	Interviews with stakeholders and young people, survey of young people

High-level questions	Sub-questions	Data Sources
	What support did young people have in the six-month Youth Parliament programme?	Interviews with stakeholders and young people, survey of young people
	How closely were young people able to work with their adult counterparts?	Interviews with stakeholders and young people, survey of young people
	How did the participating young people engage with others because of Youth Parliament 2022?	Interviews with stakeholders and young people, survey of young people
	How valuable was the six-month programme for participants?	Interviews with young people, survey of young people
How did young people experience the Youth Parliament event?	What did young people do during the Youth Parliament event?	Interviews with stakeholders and young people, survey of young people
	What support was available to young people to fully engage in the event?	Interviews with stakeholders and young people, survey of young people
	How well did the event replicate Parliamentary processes?	Interviews with stakeholders and young people, survey of young people
	What opportunities are there to strengthen the Youth Parliament event for young people?	Interviews with stakeholders and young people, survey of young people
	How valuable was the Youth Parliament event for participants?	Interviews with young people, survey of young people
How did young people share their opinions with policy agencies?	How did young people collaborate with policy agencies?	Interviews with stakeholders and young people

High-level questions	Sub-questions	Data Sources
	How will/have policy agencies use/d reports produced in Youth Parliament 2022? How is this information to be provided to young people?	Interviews with stakeholders and young people
How did participating young people benefit? What benefits extended to their peers and the wider community?		
Did Youth Parliament 2022 increase participants' political/civic/community engagement?	What did young people learn about their democracy/civic education? How does this reflect what they already knew?	Interviews with young people, survey of young people
	Have young people already changed, or do they plan to change, their civic participation (voting, volunteering, community activities, political activities)?	Interviews with young people, survey of young people
How did young people engage with their communities?	How were Youth MPs incentivised to engage in community projects? What barriers stopped them from engaging in community projects?	Interviews with stakeholders and young people
	How did Youth MPs inform their community of parliamentary actions and processes?	Interviews with young people
	What opportunities were available to Youth Press Gallery to disseminate their writing?	Interviews with young people, survey of young people
	How were Youth Press Gallery supported to disseminate their writing?	Interviews with young people, survey of young people
	What other opportunities have young people had to engage with their community?	Interviews with young people
What changes have young people experienced as a result of their participation?	What did young people learn from participating in Youth Parliament 2022?	Interviews with young people, survey of young people
	Have young people influenced their peers and community to become more politically engaged?	Interviews with young people, survey of young people
	Have there been other outcomes for young people because of Youth Parliament 2022?	Interviews with young people, survey of young people

High-level questions	Sub-questions	Data Sources
What opportunities are there to strengthen the Youth Parliament programme?		
What opportunities exist to improve the Youth Parliament programme?	What improvements could be made to the application and selection process?	Interviews with stakeholders and young people, survey of young people
	What improvements could be made to the programme and the Youth Parliament event? What other educational opportunities could be available for young people?	Interviews with stakeholders and young people, survey of young people
	How could youth be better supported to engage in Youth Parliament?	Interviews with stakeholders and young people, survey of young people

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Aide-mémoire



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT**
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

Meeting

Date: 12 December 2022 **Security Level:** IN CONFIDENCE

For: Hon Priyanca Radhakrishnan, Minister for Youth, Associate
Minister for Social Development and Employment

File Reference: REP/22/12/1268

Youth Engagement Ministerial Group

Meeting/visit details	4.00 – 4.45pm Monday 12 December 2022
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Expected attendees	Ministers
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Hon Chris Hipkins: Education and Police (Co-Chair)

Hon Carmel Sepuloni: Social Development (Co-Chair)

Hon Kelvin Davis: Children and Corrections

Hon Jan Tinetti: Associate Education

Hon Kiritapu Allan: Justice

Hon Marama Davidson: Prevention of Family and Sexual
Violence, Housing Homelessness

Ministers with standing invitations

Hon Aupito William Sio: Pacific Peoples

Hon Willie Jackson: Māori Development

Officials

Iona Holsted (Education)

Serena Curtis (for Debbie Power; Social Development)

Andy Coster (NZ Police)

Andrew Kibblewhite (Justice)

Chappie Te Kani (Oranga Tamariki)

Alistair Mason (for Renee Graham; Social Wellbeing Agency)

Isabel Evans (Education)

Andy Jackson (Education)

Education secretariat

Shelly Robertson

Jason Dowse

Catherine Williams

Purpose of meeting/visit

You are attending the Youth Engagement Ministerial Group (YEMG) meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss and provide direction to the Youth Engagement workstream.

The agenda covers:

1	Reporting: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regional action plans• Dashboard reporting
2	Regional activity update: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Allocation of funding• Kotahi te Whakaaro• Point England
3	Draft work programme
4	Evaluations review
5	Update on summer crime trends

Background

YEMG last met on 15 November 2022

At the previous meeting Ministers discussed approaches to youth offending with the Chief Science Advisors, who emphasised the importance of interventions focused on younger children.

Ministers requested a report back including updates on the '79' serious and persistent young offenders, proposed summary metrics, updated regional action plans, initial advice on how to segment the next cohorts within the '7,000' highest risk children and young people, proposals for how \$1-2 million additional expenditure could be best used.

Decisions in the interim

Cabinet approved the drawdown of \$6.0 million from the Proceeds of Crime Fund for youth engagement/youth crime prevention initiatives.

Minister Sepuloni has agreed the expansion of the Kotahi te Whakaaro and West Auckland multidisciplinary cross-agency team initiatives (subsequently referred to collectively as Kotahi te Whakaaro) to cover suitable 14-17 year olds. Kotahi te Whakaaro will retain an early intervention focus, so will deal with 14-17 year olds who have not had previous interaction with the youth justice system.

Cabinet has considered proposals from the Minister for Children and Minister of Justice on a stronger approach to ram raid offending. Ministers have subsequently announced the creation of a new 'Fast Track' response pathway for repeat child offenders, building on the Kotahi te Whakaaro model.

MSD been working with Oranga Tamariki, Police and the Auckland region to discuss how the Fast Track approach can complement Kotahi te Whakaaro and the West Auckland multidisciplinary cross-agency team.

Reporting

A first dashboard style view of the '79' is provided as appendix 3a for the briefing, along with a dashboard of four key youth justice metrics.

Key points include:

- A higher proportion of the '79' have now been identified as having reoffended within the past three months.
- While Police proceedings against youth increased in the year to August 2022 in Auckland, they have continued to decline nationally.
- Proceedings against youth in Auckland for burglary increased 67 percent, and those for theft by 36 percent.

Some questions you may wish to ask include:

- Are the outcomes we are seeing so far for these young people to date those that would typically be expected for a group of young people such as these?
 - Are the recent increases in youth crime the start of a reversal of longer-term trends (which have been in a downward direction)?
 - Are we likely to see the increases we have seen in Auckland, in particular, in other regions (which ones)?
-

-
- What can we expect with regard to youth crime rates over the summer break period? What, if any, special plans are in place to address youth crime over the summer period?
 - Is what we are seeing in Aotearoa New Zealand mirrored elsewhere in the world?
-

Regional activity

The \$6 million allocated from the Proceeds of Crime Fund for youth engagement/youth crime prevention initiatives is to be allocated by MSD through the Regional Public Service Commissioners (RPSCs) in the four priority regions.

The \$6 million consists of:

- \$2 million for regional youth engagement; and
- \$4 million to foster local preventative crime programmes to be allocated to councils and backed by councils matching funding (which may include youth engagement initiatives).

RPSCs will work alongside councils and regional leadership groups to identify programmes for investment that:

- can be expected to have demonstrable impacts on youth engagement and/or youth offending;
- reflect a coordinated approach across government and partnership with iwi and communities; and
- are consistent with regional plans.

RPSCs will target initiatives towards the highest needs children and young people, and those apprehended as a result of ram raids. This will take account of Social Wellbeing Agency (SWA) work to identify the communities where children and young people with the highest needs are residing.

Discussions between RPSCs and their local Councils on the \$4 million will take time, as many regions have appointed new Mayors, so time is needed to develop and establish relationships. These discussions will take place over the next two months.

Within the next two weeks, decisions will be made on how RPSCs will be allocate the \$2 million to existing initiatives/programmes.

At this stage MSD anticipates that regional youth engagement funding will be committed to:

- support additional resource for the expansion of Kotahi te Whakaaro to cover suitable 14-17 year olds
- Te Ara Whānau Waiora. This is a pathway (identified through work between Police and Oranga Tamariki) for whānau to connect with iwi, hapū, and community providers, to design a whole of whānau plan for collective learning and healing achieved through services already offered by providers.

The bulk of the \$2 million should be available to support other initiatives.

MYD's F23 Open Tender Funding Round Outcomes

As you are aware, MYD has recently completed its contestable tender process. In follow-up conversations with unsuccessful providers, we are aware that some are supporting/were intending to support high-risk young people with their programmes i.e. gang affiliated, and may be better suited to the two regional funds.

You may wish to mention that MYD is working with MSD officials to consider alternate funding options for these providers on a case-by-case basis and will be referring to RPSCs where relevant.

Point England School

Officials have met with members of the Point England Community to discuss what they might require to address school attendance and improve community resilience. Funding for an initiative in this area will be considered.

Note MYD currently funds the Glen Innes Family Centre (GIFC) to support young people aged 12-21 through the Ākonga Fund. Young people participating are from Tamaki College, Selwyn College, and Point England School which has recently increased their age range through to Year 8. As at the end of Term 3, 32 young people have exited the GIFC programme and 100% have achieved an education, training or employment outcome.

The GIFC has recently had their Ākonga Fund contract extended through to 31 December 2023, and received additional funding to respond to increased demand – increasing from 20 young people in 2022 to 42 young people in 2023.

You may wish to mention there is potential to explore whether the GIFIC could pilot an extension to their programme, to support more students from Point England School, if it were led and funded by the RPSC. MYD could consider administering the pilot if this was the case.

**Work
programme**

Appendix 7 of the briefing sets out a draft work programme. This covers work on a continuum of interventions including:

- Preventative interventions
- Interventions for Moderate Risk Factors
- Interventions for Multiple and Significant Risk Factors
- Interventions for Very Significant Risk Factors

The work programme covers the implementation and expansion of existing interventions, but also further works on gaps analysis and proposals for new interventions to meet these gaps (particularly in the 'Moderate' and 'Multiple and Significant' risks factors groups).

Note that while the Ministry of Youth Development FTE Pilot is not referenced explicitly in the work programme, it targets young people with moderate risk factors.

**Evaluations
review**

SWA has reviewed the evidence base for programmes identified in an earlier stocktake undertaken as part of the YEMG work.

The review found:

- The evidence on evaluation outcomes from the range of programmes in place for young people with high needs is mixed – but we may know a lot about these programmes from other information sources.
- This is likely due to many of the programmes being new, and data not yet being available (or collected).
- More comparison evaluation approaches would help determine what works and where to invest to get the best outcomes for these young people.

SWA is continuing to develop this work.

Akonga Fund Evaluation

Note that the stocktake of evaluations was completed by SWA based on publicly available and completed evaluations on youth engagement. The Ākonga Fund is noted on slide 6 as currently having 'no evaluation'.

As you are aware MYD has commissioned Big River Creative to deliver a research evaluation of the Ākonga Fund, which focuses on how re-engagement happens in disengaged ākonga, and how improved connections with peers, whānau and community enable learning. The final report is due in February 2023, and will be provided to you and the Minister of Education.

You have been briefed on high-level preliminary findings, which included:

- how providers fostered stronger connections with whānau, Iwi, community and other support services
- how providers utilised linkages to increase engagement in learning and/or improve future aspirations (eg ākonga have transitioned to further training or employment as a result of participating in ākonga funded initiatives)
- information specific to priority cohorts
- messages from providers.

You may wish to mention the following key points of feedback from providers:

- Ākonga empowerment requires a range of organisations, stakeholders, schools and community providers; a focus on magic bullet interventions misses the larger picture of an ecosystem of empowerment, where providers are only a single node or link
- The interventions providers had crafted would only work where they were situated. All ākonga empowerment programmes, providers believed, must be grown from the bottom up, and not be shaped from the top down.

MYD will provide an update on this evaluation to SWA officials.

**Summer
crime trends**

This is an oral item.

Author: Chris Nimmo, Principal Analyst, Child and Youth Policy

Report



MINISTRY OF
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO TAIOHI
Administered by the Ministry of Social Development

Date: 16 December 2022

Security Level: IN CONFIDENCE

To: Hon Priyanca Radhakrishnan, Minister for Youth

Refugee and Migrant Youth Voice Pilot Project - Draft Report

Purpose of the report

- 1 This report provides you with an early draft of the Refugee and Migrant Youth Voice Pilot Project Report (*Connect & Kōrero – Innovating to amplify refugee and ethnic migrant youth voice in Aotearoa New Zealand policy*), as requested for your summer reading, and information on proposed next steps.

Recommended actions

It is recommended that you:

- 1 **note** the contents of this report
- 2 **note** the Ministry of Youth Development – Te Manatū Whakahiato Taiohi contracted the University of Auckland to lead the Refugee and Migrant Youth Voice Pilot project
- 3 **note** the Refugee and Migrant Youth Voice Pilot project has engaged with a broad and diverse range of young people, organisations, representatives of ethnic communities and colleagues from other government agencies
- 4 **note** a copy of *Connect & Kōrero – Innovating to amplify refugee and ethnic migrant youth voice in Aotearoa New Zealand policy* draft report is attached as Appendix One for your information
- 5 **note** the *Connect & Kōrero – Innovating to amplify refugee and ethnic migrant youth voice in Aotearoa New Zealand policy* draft report is yet to be thoroughly reviewed by the Ministry of Youth Development – Te Manatū Whakahiato Taiohi, the Ministry of Social Development – Te Manatū Whakahiato Ora Policy Team and Publication Committee. A final report will also incorporate feedback from Ministry of Youth Development – Te Manatū Whakahiato Taiohi Youth Advisory Group members from a refugee and migrant background, and other internal stakeholders

6 **note** you have an opportunity to consider a foreword for the *Connect & Kōrero – Innovating to amplify refugee and ethnic migrant youth voice in Aotearoa New Zealand policy* final report

7 **agree** to the Ministry of Youth Development – Te Manatū Whakahiato Taiohi preparing draft text for a foreword for your consideration

agree / disagree

8 **note** a range of ethnically diverse young people have been partner's in the design and delivery of the Refugee and Migrant Youth Voice Pilot project

9 **agree** to the Ministry of Youth Development – Te Manatū Whakahiato Taiohi preparing draft text for a letter of congratulations and thanks to the young people directly involved in the design and delivery of the Refugee and Migrant Youth Voice Pilot project

agree / disagree

10 **note** the Ministry of Youth Development – Te Manatū Whakahiato Taiohi can work with the Project team to identify an appropriate opportunity for an in-person launch of the *Connect & Kōrero – Innovating to amplify refugee and ethnic migrant youth voice in Aotearoa New Zealand policy* final report

11 **agree** to the Ministry of Youth Development – Te Manatū Whakahiato Taiohi identifying an appropriate opportunity for an in-person launch of the *Connect & Kōrero – Innovating to amplify refugee and ethnic migrant youth voice in Aotearoa New Zealand policy* final report

agree / disagree

12 **note** the *Connect & Kōrero – Innovating to amplify refugee and ethnic migrant youth voice in Aotearoa New Zealand policy* final report, will be made publicly available, including on the MYD website.

Dibs Patel

16 December 2022

Dibs Patel, Director Youth

Date

Hon Priyanca Radhakrishnan
Minister for Youth

Date

Background

- 2 On Monday 22 February 2021 the Ministry of Youth Development (MYD) – Te Manatū Whakahiato Taiohi provided you with an overview of the proposed Refugee and Migrant Youth Voice¹ Pilot project (the Project) [REP/21/2/124 refers].
- 3 The Project, commenced in mid-2021, is a specialised area of work, incorporating youth development and community engagement best practice and was implemented in a manner which has included:
 - building connectedness, belonging and confidence of ethnically diverse young people to express their authentic voice and perspectives
 - supporting ethnically diverse young people to meaningfully contribute to design, delivery and decision-making at all stages.
- 4 On Thursday 10 March 2022 MYD provided you with an update on progress with the Project [REP/22/3/160 refers]. MYD provided a further update on the Project through Youth Status Report (YSR) 18: Period ending Wednesday 23 November 2022. The YSR update noted that the draft report was due to be provided to MYD in mid-December and would be submitted to the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) – Te Manatū Whakahiato Ora publication committee for internal peer review and sign-off. We expect this process to be completed in early 2023. You requested a copy of the draft report is provided for your summer reading.
- 5 On Monday 12 December 2022 the University of Auckland delivered the Project draft report to MYD.
- 6 A draft copy of the *Connect & Kōrero – Innovating to amplify refugee and ethnic migrant youth voice in Aotearoa New Zealand policy* (the Report) report is attached as **Appendix One**.
- 7 The Report is an initial draft and is yet to be thoroughly reviewed by MYD and the MSD Policy Team and Publication Committee. Before being finalised MYD will also seek feedback on the report's contents from MYD Youth Advisory Group (YAG) members and other internal stakeholders. The final Report will also be subject to professional design which will change some of the current images (used as place holders), as indicated in the draft report. MYD anticipates this work will be undertaken over January/February 2023. With a final report ready for publication in late February / early March 2023.

Connect & Kōrero – Innovating to amplify refugee and ethnic migrant youth voice in Aotearoa New Zealand policy

- 8 The Project focused on ideating, prototyping, implementing, and testing a co-designed innovation based on insights about the ethnic youth policy participation gap gained from interviews, community engagement hui and a review of available research evidence.
- 9 The Report represents the culmination of work undertaken by a team consisting of ethnically diverse young people, the Centre for Asia Pacific Refugee Studies, University of Auckland – Waipapa Taumata Rau, the Innovation Unit, community partners and Policy makers and other personnel representing government agencies.

¹ Amplifying Youth Voice is a key focus area in the Youth Plan.

- 10 The Report presents the context, process and various phases of the Project, and includes a logic analysis assessing existing evidence to verify the logic of the theory of change model presented in the Report.

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² 18(d)

Next Steps

- 15 During January and February MYD will thoroughly review the report to ensure that it aligns with the expectations for this work. MYD is proposing to share the draft report with members of its YAG to seek feedback and input on its accessibility and relevance from their experiences and perspectives. Feedback on the draft Report content, presentation and relevance will also be sought from MSD Policy. MYD anticipates the internal review will be completed over January/February 2023.
- 16 The draft Report will be submitted at the next available MSD Publication Committee for review and sign-off as an acceptable evidenced based research report.
- 17 Following any final editing changes the draft Report will be forwarded to the Project team to be appropriately designed for publication, including all images being refined.
- 18 Subject to your agreement, MYD can prepare draft text to support you with a foreword in the final report.
- 19 Subject to your agreement, MYD can prepare draft text for a letter of congratulations and thanks to the young people directly involved in the design and delivery of the Project.
- 20 Subject to your agreement, MYD can work with the Project team to identify an appropriate opportunity to launch the Report in-person, if appropriate. The final report is likely to be ready for publication in late February / early March 2023.
- 21 The final Report, along with all other Project assets, is intended be made publicly available, including on the MYD website.
- 22 MYD officials are available to discuss the draft Report and next steps at your convenience.

Report number REP/22/12/1282

Author: Dibs Patel, Director Youth

Responsible manager: Debra Tuifao, General Manager, Youth

Appendix One: Draft Report *Connect & Kōrero – Innovating to amplify refugee and ethnic migrant youth voice in Aotearoa New Zealand policy*

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