

# Independent statutory review of the oversight of Oranga Tamariki system

A SUMMARY OF WHAT WE FOUND FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE.

This review is all about making sure that the people who take care of children and young people in the Oranga Tamariki system are doing a good job by having a strong system to oversee their work. We talked to lots of people and read many documents to understand how things are going.



# What we found...

# 1 Importance of Good Oversight

It's really important to have good oversight, which means checking that everything is done right. This helps people trust that children and young people are being well cared for.

# 4 Challenges and Improvements

There are some challenges because the oversight laws are still very new. Some people don't fully understand them yet, and there isn't enough data to see how well they are working.

# 2 Children's Rights and Voices at the Centre

We talked to lots of people, including children, young people, and groups that help them. Everyone said that it's important to have a good system to keep children safe. We learned that it is important to make sure children's rights and voices are at the centre of the oversight system.



# 3 Working Together

Different groups need to work together better. This includes people who oversee the Oranga Tamariki system and groups within the system. When they work together, they can make sure children get the best care.

### 5 Trust and Values

Children and young people told us that trust is very important to them. They want the people who take care of them to be honest, reliable, and to build trust and respect with them and support their family connections, when they are in the care of the state. The oversight system should support this.

# 6 No Big Changes Needed

The new rules are working well so far, and we don't think any big changes are needed right now. Some people suggested small improvements, including more communication and collaboration but overall, things are going as planned.

### **?** Working with Iwi and Māori

Mana Mokopuna and Aroturuki Tamariki are doing a good job of working with iwi and Māori organisations so far. We expect to see them continue to engage with iwi and Māori to make sure that Māori children are well cared for.

### 8 No Obstruction

We didn't find anyone stopping the people who check the Oranga Tamariki system from doing their job. But sometimes it's hard for them to get information fast.