



Briefing Note: Highest Needs Review Phase Two Engagement Update

To:	Hon Jan Tinetti, Associate Minister of Education		
Cc:	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education		
Date:	17 December 2021	Priority:	Medium
Security Level:	In Confidence	METIS No:	1278843
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Messaging seen by Communications team:	No	Round Robin:	No

Purpose of Report

This paper provides you with an update on how phase two of the Highest Needs Review is progressing.

Summary

- The Highest Needs Review is engaging with stakeholders and will continue until March 2022.
- A Ministry Advisory Group has been established and the Office of Disability Issues is supporting the Review team to connect with Disabled People's Organisations before final membership for group is confirmed.
- A list of current Advisory Group members is provided in Annex One.
- This engagement is running alongside a literature review and quantitative data workstream. Engagement material we will use is attached as Annex Two.

Recommended Actions

The Ministry of Education recommends you:

- a **Note** the Highest Needs Review has been engaging with stakeholders over the last seven weeks and will continue until the end of March 2022.

Noted

- b **Note** that a Ministry Advisory Group has been established. A list of current members is provided in Annex One.

Noted

- c **Note** in April 2022, you will receive a briefing on insights gained from analysis.

Noted

- d **Agree** that the Ministry of Education release this briefing in full once it has been considered by you.

Agree/ Disagree



Susan Howan
Pouwhakarae - Te Pae Aronui
Associate Deputy Secretary,
Strategy and Implementation
Sector Enablement and Support

17/12/2021



Hon Jan Tinetti
Associate Minister of Education

21/12/2021

Background

1. The Highest Needs Review (the Review) is undertaking phase two engagement with partners and stakeholders until March 2022. The purpose of this phase is to gather more evidence and information to unpack identified barriers, key areas, issues, and concerns as outlined in the Review's Terms of Reference.
2. You agreed in November [Metis 1275219 refers] to extend the timeline for phase two engagement to March 2022 due to the impact of COVID-19 lockdown. Engagements over recent weeks have confirmed that the impact of COVID-19 has affected people's ability to engage with us before Christmas.

Update on the Review

Ministry Advisory Group Update

3. We have now established the Ministry Advisory Group (Advisory Group) for the Review and an independent facilitator has been engaged. The purpose of the Advisory Group is to provide the Review with diversity of thought on identified barriers, key issues, and areas of concerns as outlined in the Review's Terms of Reference.
4. With their knowledge and expertise, the Advisory Group will also support the development of options and solutions for change in the phase three of the Review.
5. The first Advisory Group meeting was held in November. We discussed how the Review team would work together with members, and any thoughts or insights members had on the Review's Scope. A draft Terms of Reference for the Advisory Group was tabled for members to provide input into.
6. We are still in the process of confirming final members of the Advisory Group who have lived experience. The Office of Disability Issues is supporting the Review team to connect with Disabled People's Organisations.
7. Annex One, provides you with the current list of members of the Advisory Group. Our intention is to publish a complete list of members on the Review's web page in January, and a finalised Terms of Reference for the Advisory Group in early February.

Stakeholder Engagement Update

8. A number of online or in person meetings have been held with stakeholders to introduce the Review, explain more about the children and young people within Scope of the Review, or to unpack specific scope areas. These have included sector peak bodies, schools, disability and community groups, and individuals.
9. Next year focused stakeholder group sessions with parents and professional groups will continue.
10. More voices from children and young people will be gathered next year. Community and advocacy organisations, and Oranga Tamariki - the Ministry for Children are helping to facilitate this.
11. An online submission portal for stakeholders will be ready in January 2022.
12. Example of engagement materials we will use are attached as Annex Two.

Additional workstreams for the Review

13. In addition to the engagement workstream, we are continuing to progress the quantitative data and literature review workstreams to triangulate evidence with qualitative engagement data. These workstreams will feed into options and solutions development in April 2022. The below table provides you with high-level timeline for these workstreams.

	Timeline
Phase two engagement workstream	November 2021 - March 2022
Quantitative data workstream	November 2021 – March 2022
Literature review workstream	January 2022 – March 2022
Submission analysis	March 2022 – April 2022

Next Steps

14. In April 2022, we will provide you with another briefing on the stakeholder engagement which will also include key insights we have gained from this engagement, the literature review, and quantitative data work.

Annexes

Annex One: Highest Needs Review Advisory Group members

Annex Two: Highest Needs Review Engagement Material

Annex One: Highest Needs Review Advisory Group members

Members

		Organisation Represented
1	Te Rina Leonard	Te Kura Correspondence School
2	Shirley Jones	Special Education Principals Assn. NZ
3	Bernette Peters	CCS Disability Action
4	Lisa Foster	Rare Disorders NZ
5	Colin Tarr	NZEI
6	John Bangma	RTLB Executive Lead School Principals
7	Jenny Woodfield	Autism NZ
8	Caroline Samson	Te Kopuku High School
9	Dr. Rebekah Graham	Parents of Vision Impaired
10	Hannah Winter	Canterbury Kindergartens
11	Bruce Jepsen	Te Akatea Principals Assn
12	Saane Faafo-Oldehaver	Pasifika Principals Assn.
13	Rev. Dr. Featuna'i Liua'ana	Minister and Pastoral Leader
14	Wairemana Campbell	EGL Governance Group Whānau Whai Kaha Māori
15	Dr. Missy Morton	Education for All
16	Frian Wadia	Parent2Parent
17	DPO Coalition Representative	To be advised
18	DPO Coalition Representative	To be advised