

# Ministry for Women Weekly Report to the Minister for Women

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As at 7 February 2019

## **Part 1: Current priority outcome areas**

### **The contribution of all women and girls is valued**

#### Wai 2700 Mana Wāhine Inquiry

##### *Key messages*

Following last week's interview with Māori Television on the PSA rūnanga's claim to the Inquiry, the Ministry is refining the key messages for any future media queries. We will provide these to your office once we have consulted with Crown Law and the agencies on the inter-departmental working group.

*[Tracking log item: n/a]*

#### Implementing action to increase women's participation on state sector boards

We met with Robyn Smith, Deputy Chief Executive Corporate Services Ministry of Transport – Te Manatū Waka on Monday, 4 December 2018. Robyn has agreed to chair the government agency steering group which has been established by the Ministry to champion action on the 50 percent target for women's participation on state sector boards. Its focus is on implementing the four actions agreed to by Cabinet to achieve gender balance on state sector boards [APH-18-MIN-0089 refers]:

- Action one: Collective action (Increasing accountability)
- Action two: Supporting state sector board appointments (Increasing demand)
- Action three: Increasing the supply of qualified women candidates (Increasing demand)
- Action four: Monitoring progress to increase women's participation on state sector boards (Tracking progress).

We will provide you with an update on outcomes from the steering group once it has met in late February.

*[Tracking log item: n/a]*

## All women and girls are financially secure and can fully participate and thrive

### Participation rates for female students in education

#### *New Zealand Schools Attendance Survey*

The [New Zealand Schools Attendance Survey](#)<sup>1</sup> recently reported that female students in years 12 and 13 have lower attendance than males. The report also finds that attendance is lower in decile 1 (low socio-economic) schools. The Ministry has requested further breakdowns to see if this can help improve our evidence base about the prevalence of school absence due to period poverty and caregiving. We would be cautious about using the report to point to gender differences until we had more data. Absenteeism is roughly equal for males and females up until year 12. The report also shows significant differences by ethnicity. The Ministry has also asked for gendered breakdown by ethnicity.

*[Tracking log item: n/a]*

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0006/193290/NZ-Schools-Attendance-Survey-Term-2-2018.pdf](https://www.educationcounts.govt.nz/__data/assets/pdf_file/0006/193290/NZ-Schools-Attendance-Survey-Term-2-2018.pdf)  
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## **All women and girls are free from all forms of violence and harassment**

### Joint Venture on Family Violence and Sexual Violence

We are now working with other officials in intensive workshops towards a draft of the National Strategy. We are working to ensure that issues of digital harm, sexual harassment in the workplace, and issues raised under Mana Wāhine claims are integrated into the work. We will brief you before the end of February on progress, including opportunities for your involvement in the public engagement phase.

*[Tracking log item: n/a]*

## System leadership, impact and reputation

### Voluntary National Review on Sustainable Development Goals

Cabinet agreed in December 2018 that New Zealand will publish its first Voluntary National Review (VNR) on progress towards meeting the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals in July 2019. The Ministry is developing draft text for Goal 5 - achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls - in close collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. We will brief you on the VNR in late February, prior to the proposed public consultation phase commencing.

*[Tracking log item: n/a]*

### Gender mainstreaming

#### *Australia's interest in cooperation on gender analysis*

Ministry officials met with officials from MFAT, the Australian High Commission, and the Office for Women in the Australian Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. In the context of developing the annual Prime Ministers' 22 February Statement on cooperation under a Single Economic Market, Australia has expressed interest in cooperating with New Zealand on gender analysis in policy advice. We are discussing with them what this might entail (for example, they may wish to use or adapt our gender analysis tool). We will brief you on the proposed text to be included in the Statement for your approval, as soon as possible.

*[Tracking log item: n/a]*

### International

This week, we provided you with a briefing on CSW63 seeking your approval of the proposed official delegation, including the NGO delegate, and the proposed topic of a New Zealand side event (MW 18-19 0308 refers). Following your agreement to both the proposed delegation and the side event topic, we will contact the applicants to inform them of the outcome of their application, addressing the agreed criteria. This week we will provide you with a memo containing key messages regarding the NGO selection process and the importance of having an NGO delegate on the official delegation, should you receive any queries. You may also be asked about this at the upcoming International Women's Caucus meeting. Key messages will be provided in the upcoming International Women's Caucus meeting memo.

*[Tracking log items: MW 18-19 0308 and MW 18-19 0309]*



## Part 2: Operational matters

### Ministry Chief Executive

Renee Graham has returned to the Ministry for Women as Chief Executive following her secondment to the Ministry for Culture and Heritage. Helen Potiki, who has been Acting Chief Executive, has returned to the Department of Internal Affairs as Culture Programme Manager, Service and System Transformation, until 31 May 2019. Renee looks forward to seeing you at your scheduled 1:1 with her, on Monday, 11 February 2019.

*[Tracking log item: n/a]*

### Social Services and Community Committee Annual Review questions into the Ministry for Women

We provided our draft responses to you on 5 February, with your feedback to the Ministry required by Tuesday, 12 February. The Ministry will submit their final answers to the Clerk of the House on Friday, 15 February 2019. Some of the answers involve information relating to NACEW and we have informed the NACEW Chair of this.

*[Tracking log item: MW 18-19 0233]*

### March baseline update

The Ministry will provide you with a briefing on the March baseline update. The Treasury has requested that any changes in the Ministry's financial profile be updated to them on Friday, 15 February 2019. We only expect to notify Treasury of a minor change to our financial profile.

*[Tracking log item: n/a]*

**Part 3: Policy advice (in progress)**

Type	Subject	Log Number	Due date
Briefing	Taskforce monthly update - January 2019	MW 18-19 0311	7 February 2019
Briefing	Labour market statistics - December 2018	MW 18-19 0320	7 February 2019
Briefing	March baseline update	MW 18-19 0322	15 February 2019
Memo	9(2)(f)(iv)	MW 18-19 0310	20 February 2019
Briefing	CSW - preparation and draft programme	MW 18-19 0314	25 February 2019
Briefing	Pay transparency - case studies	MW 18-19 0317	28 February 2019

**Part 4: Event and meeting briefings (in progress)**

Type	Subject	Log Number	Due date
Memo	Attendance at International Women's Caucus meeting (12 February 2019)	MW 18-19 0309	7 February 2019
Speech/Talking Points	Speech notes for International Women's Day 2019 breakfast	MW 18-19 0286	27 February 2019

**Part 5: Ministerial correspondence (in progress)**

Subject	Log Number	Due date
Ministerial on GPG	MW 18-19 0316	28 February 2019



## Part 6: WPQs/OIA/Ombudsman/Privacy Act requests to the Minister/Ministry (in progress)

Subject	Log Number	To Minister <i>on or before</i>	To requester <i>on or before</i>
<b>Ministerial OIAs</b>			
9(2)(a) [REDACTED] - Submissions made to Cabinet by Minister Genter seeking approval for international travel in the period 26 October 2017 to 18 January 2019.	MW 18-19 0303	11 February 2019	18 February 2019
9(2)(a) [REDACTED] - Weekly reports since 1 August 2018.	MW 18-19 0268	13 February 2019	20 February 2019
Complaint – Ombudsman – 9(2)(a) [REDACTED] response to OIA MW 18-19 0246	MW 18-19 0319	n/a	4 March 2019
<b>Ministry OIAs</b>			
9(2)(a) [REDACTED] - All correspondence between Minister and Ministry since 26 October 2017.	MW 18-19 0269	13 February 2019	20 February 2019
9(2)(a) [REDACTED] - Spending on advertising, past five financial years, including 2018/19 to date	MW 18-19 0318	21 February 2019	28 February 2019

## Part 7: Cabinet papers consulted on

Committee/Date	Title of paper	Department	Comments
Social Wellbeing Committee, 13 February 2019	Whānau Ora Review: Initial Response	Te Puni Kōkiri	Support the recommendations



## Part 8: Publications and events in the next six months

Publication/event	Date	Agency lead
Proposed public event for International Women's Day	8 March 2019	Ministry for Women (MW 18-19 0313 refers)
Pānui wāhine (Autumn issue)	late March 2019	Ministry for Women
<i>To be confirmed by the Taskforce –</i> Event with SSC on starting salaries in the public service	proposed date - end of April 2019	Taskforce
Women in Governance/Gender Stocktake	April/May 2019	Ministry for Women
Release of the Gender Analysis Tool	late May 2019	Ministry for Women
Publication of the 2018 literature scan on international responses to sexual harassment	May-June 2019	Ministry for Women
Pānui wāhine (Winter issue)	June 2019	Ministry for Women



**Renee Graham**  
Chief Executive



**Hon Julie Anne Genter**  
Minister for Women

Date: 12 Feb 2019