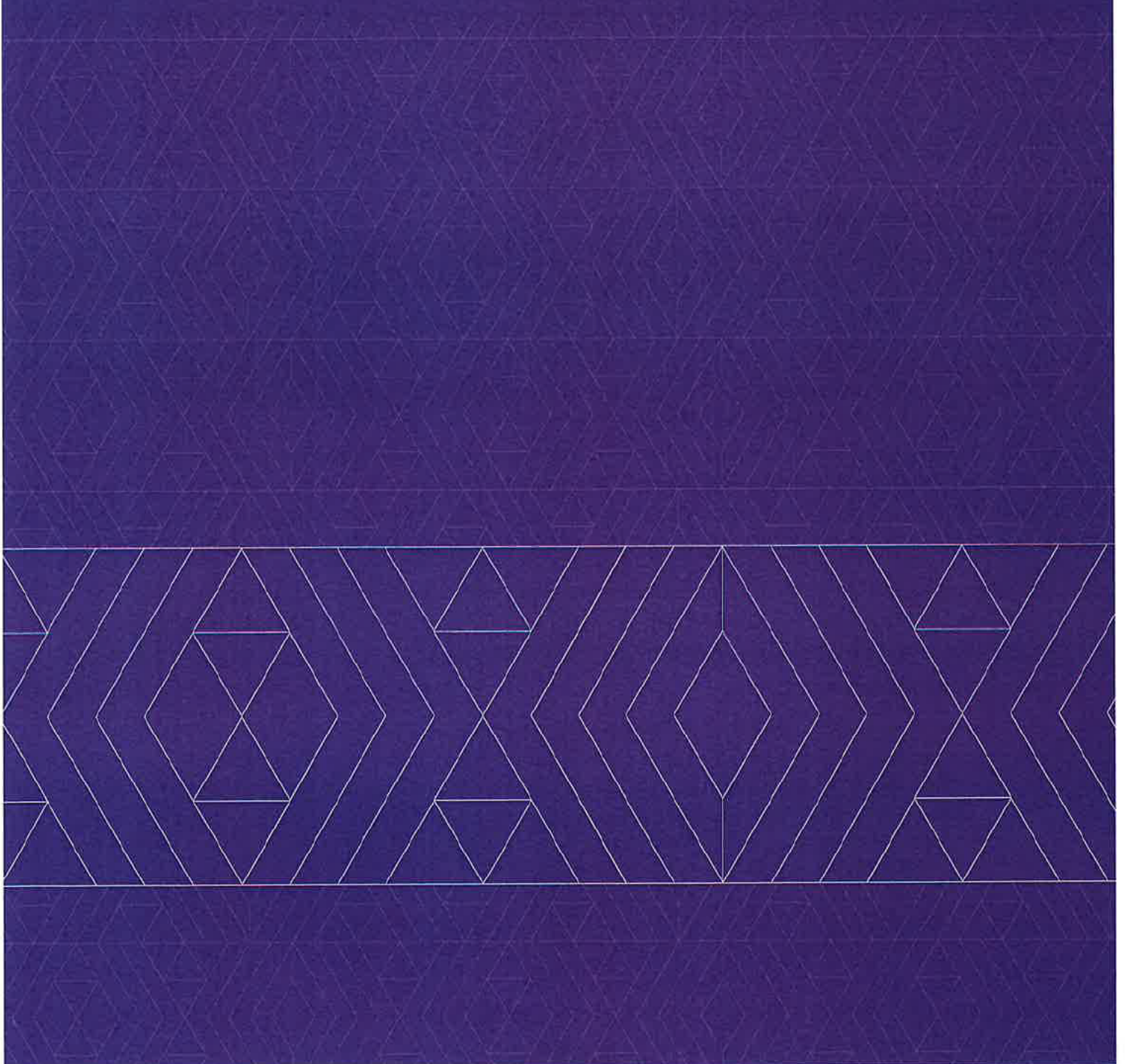




Manatū Wāhine
Ministry for Women

Fortnightly Report Minister for Women

22 December 2023



Current priority outcome areas

International Women's Caucus – meeting ahead of the Commission on the Status for Women

The International Women's Caucus (Caucus) is due to meet for their first meeting in 2024 on 13 February.

We will liaise with your office should you wish to attend the Caucus ahead of the United Nations' 68th Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, 11-22 March 2024 [MW BR 23-24 0072 refers].

The 2024 theme for CSW68 is: *“accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by addressing poverty and strengthening institutions and financing with a gender perspective.”*

The Ministry is currently calling for applications for representatives of non-government organisations (NGOs) to join as the NGO delegate on the official New Zealand Government delegation to CSW68. The selection of the NGO delegate is led by the Caucus, and the NGO delegate coordinates with the Caucus during preparation and attendance at CSW. This ensures that the NGO delegate represents NGO perspectives. The NGO delegate will also bring their own expertise and act as a liaison point between the New Zealand NGOs in attendance and the delegation, attending specified sessions and diplomatic functions.

More information about the [NGO delegate criteria and responsibilities](#) are on the Ministry's website.

Mana Wāhine Kaupapa Inquiry research projects

The Minister for Women, alongside the Minister for Māori Economic Development have joint portfolio responsibility for the Wai 2700 – Mana Wāhine Kaupapa Inquiry. Manatū Wāhine Ministry for Women and Te Puni Kōkiri are the joint-lead Crown agencies for the Inquiry.

The Waitangi Tribunal panel has commissioned seven research projects. In addition to this, the Joint Research Committee (representatives from the claimant community, claimant counsel, Crown counsel, Manatū Wāhine and Tribunal research staff) have commissioned six research projects. The Minister for Women is supporting the procurement process for the Joint Research Committee.

The Ministry will provide a summary table of the 13 research projects commissioned in early January after advising the Waitangi Tribunal, Crown Law, and the Joint Research Committee.

Ministry research on access to childcare for work

As discussed with you on 20 December, the Ministry commissioned research from Motu on labour market insights on childcare access. The report uses data from the Growing Up in New Zealand (GUINZ) longitudinal survey. There are five reports available on the Ministry website.

Key findings include:

- At 9 months old, 7.7% of children were not in childcare due to access issues; this was virtually unchanged at 7.5% at 2 years.
- Mothers whose children are not in childcare because of access issues are much less likely to be working than are mothers whose children are in care.
- Mothers who work despite their child being out of care because of access issues work the fewest hours and are more likely to work an irregular schedule.
- Disadvantaged mothers have higher rates of childcare access issues (e.g. mothers who are young, have little education, live in more deprived areas, had an unplanned pregnancy, were unemployed antenatally, received a benefit antenatally, or had low antenatal income).

- Māori and Pasifika mothers are three to four times as likely as Europeans to experience persistent access issues; these mothers tend to use childcare for five to seven more hours each week if they do use it and pay \$14 to \$30 per week less for it.
- Cost was the most common access issue.

The five reports can be accessed on our website here: [Access to Childcare Report 1 \(2021\) | Ministry for Women](#).

Three organisations received additional funding through our Physical Activity and Wellbeing Fund

The \$1 million Manatū Wāhine Physical Activity and Wellbeing Fund was launched on 1 May as part of the government's leverage and legacy programme for the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023™.

One hundred and twenty-three not-for-profit organisations were approved for financial support for community-led initiatives through the fund, designed to improve women and girls' access to sport and active recreation activities to support their wider wellbeing.

Following payment completion, we had \$7,500 remaining in the Fund. This was because one approved organisation no longer needed their funding, and another invoiced for less than they had been granted.

In consultation with the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, we allocated an additional \$2,500 each to three approved organisations that had received significantly less than they applied for and were an excellent fit for the fund. This additional funding has been provided to these organisations in late December.

- Aranui Community Trust Incorporated Society, Waitaha Canterbury
 - Additional funding for netball shoes and uniforms for players who can't afford them.
- Kahu Youth Trust, Ōtākou Otago
 - Additional funding for youth workers and other costs to support rural young women to participate in an active recreation programme.
- YSAR Trust, nationwide
 - Additional funding for scholarships and hardship grants and equipment for female rangatahi who face financial barriers.

Funded organisations are delivering their activities and programmes now. Final reports from all recipients are due at the end of February 2024. A full report will be provided to you after these reports have been collated.

Research: A new report shows positive economic impacts of hosting the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023™

On 15 December, the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment released an independent economic impact evaluation report on the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023™. It found the event was successful across all key measures with a strong overall economic return and net benefit to New Zealand of \$109.5 million at a benefit-cost ratio of 1.34. More than 740,000 tickets were issued across the 29 matches hosted in New Zealand and almost 27,000 international visitors to New Zealand collectively spent \$80.4 million.

In addition to the wider economic benefits, visibility and perception of women's sport in New Zealand also lifted - 98% of spectators reported that the tournament increased the visibility of women's sport and 78% of people, who didn't attend a game, wanted to see continued support and showcasing of women's sport.

The full report can be found here [FIFA Women's World Cup 2023 national economic impact evaluation \(majorevents.govt.nz\)](#)

Research: Release of a new report by the New Zealand Infrastructure Commission

The New Zealand Infrastructure Commission has released a new report, *Who's Working in Infrastructure*, which provides breakdowns of the composition of the infrastructure workforce. This is a large sector, with 108,000 FTE employees ranging across the planning, building, and maintenance of New Zealand's horizontal (e.g. roads, water and power) and vertical (e.g. schools and hospitals) infrastructure holdings. Overall, nearly 5% of New Zealanders work in this sector.

The report found that as of 2018 only 11% of infrastructure workers were women, compared with 14% of the wider construction industry and 47% of the employed workforce. Within the sector women were most likely to be working as clerical and administrative workers, and least likely to be working as machinery operators, technicians and managers. Participation rates for younger and older women were nearly identical.

Supporting rural women to connect – Shepherdess Muster

The inaugural Shepherdess Muster will be at Motu, Te Tairāwhiti, Gisborne, from 16 - 18 February 2024. The event is open to women across Aotearoa New Zealand who live rurally and aims to provide attendees with the tools needed to build resilience and social connectedness.

The Ministry has agreed to sponsor up to six women to attend the Shepherdess Muster, for whom cost would be a barrier and who would benefit from attending. A focus of the event is community wellbeing and acknowledging the extensive isolation – both social and geographical – that many women living rurally face.

Based on a similar event in Australia, the Shepherdess Muster was due to take place in Motu earlier this year but was cancelled three days out, due to Cyclone Gabrielle. The event has been rescheduled to take place in Motu after feedback from the community that local women needed such an event, even more so now, than prior to the cyclone.

New content on the Leadership Learning Hub

Three courses for February 2024 have been added to the Ministry's online Leadership Learning Hub. The Hub was launched in June this year, following a refresh of the Ministry's website, to support women to increase governance skills through training resources and opportunities.

The courses added to the Leadership Learning Hub are:

- **Women on Boards Masterclass:** A Governance New Zealand course that covers governance essentials, financial literacy, governance CVs and interviews skills.
- **LinkedIn for Governance Professionals:** A one-hour workshop offering practical advice on how to get the most out of LinkedIn and digital communications.
- **Governance CV Training:** A one-hour workshop covering the basics of creating a governance CV.

We will be adding more training opportunities and course offerings to the hub over the coming months.

Communications

Upcoming Social Media highlights			
Type	Title	Description	Due date
All channels	Christmas message	Sharing Merry Christmas from the Ministry and alerting of our closing dates, 5pm Dec 22 to Monday, 8 Jan.	22 Dec
Main channels	Hub / Nominations Service promotion	Sharing links and info on courses available on the Learning Leadership Hub for people over the holiday break	28 Dec
All channels	New Years Honours	Sharing congratulations to all New Year's honours recipients and highlighting women who receive Damehoods.	1 Jan
Main channels	What's My GPG tool	Sharing information on the What's My GPG tool for people to engage with over the break	3 Jan
All channels	Summer series	Lighter posts while people ease back into work such as top books by NZ women authors, NZ tv shows like the Shepherdess series. Actual posts TBC	From 8 Jan – mid Jan (once office reopens)

* All channels: LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram, X (Twitter)

** Main channels: LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram

Ministerial Servicing

Policy advice and reports in progress			
Type	Title	Log number	Due date
Nil			

Event and meeting briefings in progress			
Type	Title	Log number	Due date
Briefing	CSW68 Attendance	MW BR 23-24 0072	20/12/2023
Briefing	2024 King's Birthday Honours proposed nominees	MW BR 23-24 0077	19/12/2023

Ministerial letters and responses		
Subject	Log number	Due date
9(2)(a)	MW 23-24 0077	18/12/2023

Official Information Act requests in progress		
Subject	Log number	Due to requester
Ministry OIA requests		
Taxpayer's Union – Christmas party spend	MW DOIA 23-24 0018	26/01/2024
Minister OIA requests		
Ministerial Direction for briefings, letters and reports.	MW MOIA 23-24 0002	27/01/2024

Proactive release


This Weekly Report will be considered for release within three months of publication, under the Ministry's 'proactive release of documents' policy.

Anna Chalmers
Secretary for Women (Acting)



Date: 20 / 12 / 2023

Hon Louise Upston
Acting Minister for Women



Date: 20/12/2023