

23 February 2023

9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 30 January 2023 to Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children (Oranga Tamariki), requesting information around ministerial appointments. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

I have addressed each of your questions below.

A list of vacancy (ministerial appointment only, e.g. board member, Lay member, Trustee etc) that the nomination period has been closed but still under consideration by the Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children or relevant Minister.

In your list, can you please included the date that vacancy been advertised, what method you have used to publicly advertise the position, how many applications you have received and when the vacancy has been closed as well.

Each Care and Protection or Youth Justice residence has in place a grievance procedure as set out in the Oranga Tamariki (Residential Care) Regulations 1996. The grievance procedure provides a forum for young people or rangatahi to articulate their concerns and to have their complaints dealt with fairly to ensure that Oranga Tamariki meets its legal obligations to provide a safe and rehabilitative environment for young people or rangatahi. Every child and young person placed in a residence has the right to access the grievance procedure to lodge a grievance and the right to advocacy.

A Grievance Panel is appointed to oversee grievances lodged as part of this procedure. Each panel member is appointed by the Minister for Children on the nomination of the Chief Executive of Oranga Tamariki, following consultation with the Principal Youth Court Judge, the Principal Family Court Judge, and the Children's Commissioner. Each panel also includes a tangata whenua member from the area in which the residence is situated.

Further information regarding Grievance Panels is available [here](#).

There are currently Grievance Panel Member vacancies where the nomination period has been closed but still under consideration by Oranga Tamariki or relevant Minister, this information is set out in the following table.

Grievance Panel Member Vacancies	Date Advertised	Date Closed	Applications received
One community member for the Grievance Panel at the Epuni (Care and Protection) residence in Lower Hutt.	31/10/2022	09/11/2022	6
One community member for the Grievance Panel at Te Au rere a te Tonga (Youth Justice) residence in Palmerston North.	31/10/2022	09/11/2022	2
One community member for the Grievance Panel at the Kaahui Whetuu (Care and Protection) residence in Auckland.	31/10/2022	09/11/2022	3
One community member for the Grievance Panel at the Whakatakapokai (Youth Justice) residence in Auckland.	31/10/2022	09/11/2022	3
Multiple (two) community members for the Grievance Panel at Korowai Manaaki (Youth Justice) residence in Auckland.	10/01/2023	20/01/2023	19
One tangata whenua member for the Grievance Panel at Te Au rere a te Tonga (Youth Justice) residence in Palmerston North.	Note: For tangata whenua members, local iwi from the area of the residence were asked to provide a nomination to Oranga Tamariki.		

All grievance panel community member vacancies are publicly advertised on Oranga Tamariki careers website, NZ Government Jobs, Seek and the website for Māori and Pacific Jobs.

For grievance panel tangata whenua members, local iwi from the area of the residence were asked to provide a nomination to Oranga Tamariki.

Also, I would like to know if you have any future opening in 2023. e.g. the position that will call for nomination in the year of 2023

I am advised there are currently no future grievance panel member openings in 2023.

Oranga Tamariki intends to make the information contained in this letter available to the wider public shortly. We will do this by publishing this letter on our website. Your personal details will be deleted and we will not publish any information that would identify you as the person who requested the information.

I trust the information provided is useful. I encourage you to raise any concerns about the response with OIA_Requests@ot.govt.nz. Alternatively, you are advised of your right to also raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman by contacting them on 0800 802 602 or at info@ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephanie Short', with a stylized, cursive script.

Stephanie Short
Deputy Director, Office of the Chief Executive