

Report

Date: 16 August 2019

Security Level: In Confidence

To: Hon Tracey Martin, Minister for Children

Report number: REP-OT/19/8/229

Next steps for early intervention

Purpose of the report

- 1 To confirm the next steps for work on early intervention, following our whiteboard session with you on 7 August 2019.

Recommended actions

It is recommended that you:

- 1 **note** that Oranga Tamariki and the Child Wellbeing Unit in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet propose to co-lead work to improve the wellbeing of families and whānau with children and young people with greater needs
- 2 **note** that, at your direction, we propose to explore the role of other agencies, including Te Puni Kōkiri, to progress this as a cross-agency piece of work
- 3 **agree** that this work forms part of the next phase of policy work to progress the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy on *expanding whānau-centred approaches to improve child and youth wellbeing* (this focus area is currently led by Te Puni Kōkiri)

Agree / Disagree

- 4 **advise** Oranga Tamariki officials if you would like to form a Ministerial group to lead this work, and if so, which Ministers should be included
- 5 **note** that, following your direction on which Ministers and agencies should lead this work, we will provide you (and your Ministerial colleagues) with advice on the engagement process for policy settings and community-led design

- 6 **note** that your decisions on the recommendations above will inform a report back to Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee by 31 October 2019, along with other areas of further policy work under the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy.

Geoff Short
Executive Director
Child Wellbeing and Poverty Reduction Group
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Date

Anita West
Deputy Chief Executive
Policy and Organisational Strategy
Oranga Tamariki

Date

Hon Tracey Martin
Minister for Children

Date

We want to confirm the next steps for early intervention

- 1 Officials from Oranga Tamariki and the Child Wellbeing and Poverty Reduction Group recently discussed the direction of our work on early intervention with you, and how this fits with the next stage of work under the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy.
- 2 At our whiteboard session on 7 August 2019, we discussed the attached A3 which sets out the proposed process for further work on early intervention. This report seeks to confirm the next steps.
- 3 We propose that our early intervention work be progressed alongside other agencies as part of the next phase of work under the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy priorities: *expanding whānau-centred approaches to improve child and youth wellbeing*. The focus would be on improving the wellbeing of families and whānau of ‘children and young people with greater needs’.¹
- 4 We want communities to design the system and services they want and need, with the Crown providing the necessary support and infrastructure. We know that this will require a cross-agency response.

- 5 **§ 9(2)(g)(i)** [Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

The first step is to join up across the Crown

- 6 In the first instance, we recommend the Child Wellbeing Unit in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet lead this work with Oranga Tamariki. Te Puni Kōkiri and other social sector agencies, particularly the Ministries of Education and Health, and the New Zealand Police, have a role to play too.
- 7 You indicated that you would like to discuss the scope and approach for this work with relevant Ministers before we seek support from other agencies. We will await further direction from you before seeking commitment from Te Puni Kōkiri to work with us, and before discussing this more widely with other agencies.

- § 9(2)(g)(i)** [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
 - [Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
 - [Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
 - [Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

1 ‘Children and young people with greater needs’ is one of the groups that the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy must focus on, however this group has not yet been defined as an identifiable population.

- s 9(2)(g)(i)
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There are options for developing policy settings

- 9 There are two different ways that we could establish the policy settings for a community-led design process – the main difference being the level of engagement and consultation we undertake before seeking agreement from Cabinet. The options are:
 - 9.1 **Option one:** develop policy settings based on lessons from past engagement, with targeted engagement to test the proposals with the strategic partners of Oranga Tamariki, existing agency advisory groups such as the Oranga Tamariki Māori Design Group, and major early intervention service providers
 - 9.2 **Option two:** a broader collaboration process where there is joint decision-making on the proposed policy settings between agencies and partners, including the strategic partners of Oranga Tamariki.
- 10 We are working on further advice for you on the benefits and risks associated with these two options, and the timing implications. Our advice will depend on the final scope of this work, and which Ministers and agencies are leading it.

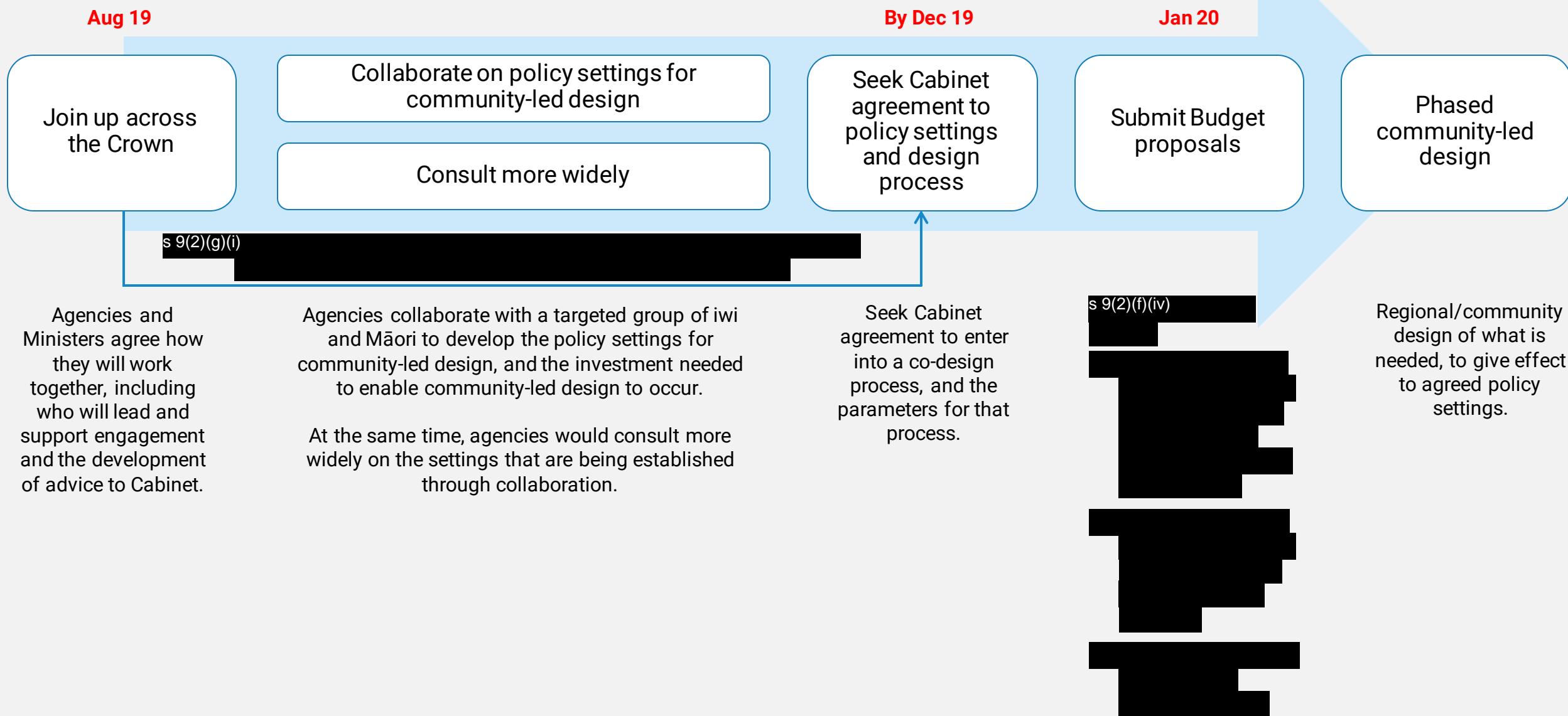
Plan the community-led design process and submit Budget proposals

- 11 At our meeting last week, we discussed that a community-led design process would need to be phased across the country. We undertook to provide you with some advice on how to approach this, including where we might look to start, based on levels of need, capability and capacity, and areas where effective work in this area is already underway.
- 12 We are undertaking further analysis to understand wellbeing needs in different regions, and their scale. We will use this, alongside other regional profile information, to inform further advice to you on options for community-led design processes, including the anticipated support and resourcing required from government. s 9(2)(f)(iv)

Next steps

- 13 We understand that you will discuss the scope and approach for this work with your Ministerial colleagues (such as the Minister for Whānau Ora and the Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector). You will then direct us to seek commitment from other agencies for their involvement in this work. We can provide material to support these discussions if required.
- 14 In the meantime, we will continue working on advice for you (and your Ministerial colleagues) on a potential cross-agency engagement approach to establish the policy settings for community-led design, and options for community-led design processes – our advice is dependent on your decisions about how to take this work forward with other agencies.
- 15 Subject to your direction on the cross-agency approach, we intend to report back to Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee with detailed plans for this work, and likely Budget implications, by 31 October 2019.

Appendix One: process for getting to locally-owned approaches to early intervention to improve whānau wellbeing and prevent entry into the care, protection and youth justice systems



Next steps for early intervention

- To progress this work, we would like to discuss:
- scope
 - agency and Ministerial involvement
 - approach to Budget 2020
 - timing of advice to Cabinet.