

3 July 2023

s9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe s9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 18 May 2023 to Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children (Oranga Tamariki), requesting information about funding for NGOs (Non-Governmental Organisations), partners and community groups. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

I have addressed each of your questions below.

What criteria is used by Oranga Tamariki in deciding to fund or withdraw funding from NGOS, partners, and community groups?

Oranga Tamariki works with communities, NGOs, and government agencies to support at-risk children and young people. We provide funding to NGOs, strategic partners, and communities to help us deliver services that support those children and young people. The criteria for funding of NGOs, partners, and community group information can be found on our website [here](#).

How does Oranga Tamariki's obligations under Te Tiriti impact funding criteria?

Please provide a copy of any documents which outline these criteria, including any changes in strategy which impacts the criteria used for funding.

In addition to our general obligations under Te Tiriti, section 7AA of the Oranga Tamariki Act 1989 outlines our practical commitment to Te Tiriti:

- To ensure that policies and practices have the objective of reducing disparities by setting measurable outcomes.
- Ensure that policies, practices, and services have regard to mana tamaiti, whakapapa and whanaungatanga.
- Seek to develop strategic partnerships with iwi and Māori organisations, including iwi authorities.

- Report annually and publicly on what the Ministry has done, the impact of those actions and immediate next steps.

Further information on section 7AA can be found [here](#).

The [Oranga Tamariki Social Service Procurement Policy](#) includes a section on how Te Tiriti influences our procurement of social services and what this may mean in practice.

Further, under the [Oranga Tamariki Future Direction Plan](#), Oranga Tamariki is making fundamental changes to the way it operates, including transferring funding and decision-making to Māori and communities so they can help children and their families in ways they know will work.

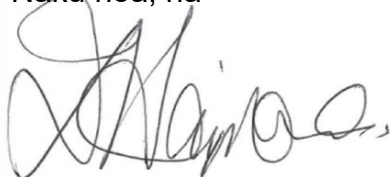
Oranga Tamariki is committed to a strategic commissioning approach. This means that we work with partners, providers, and other stakeholders so, together, we can give considered thought on what we want to achieve and for who. This then enables us to focus on how we build our partnerships and invest our collective time, resources, and expertise. We are moving towards closer partnerships, particularly with iwi and Māori organisations to give effect to our Te Tiriti obligations, but also to empower local communities working with their tamariki and whānau.

Procurement activities are one part of our commissioning approach, starting with the point at which we engage our partners with a view to funding social services, and ending at the point where we reach a mutual agreement to fund a new or continued social service or other activity.

Oranga Tamariki intends to make the information contained in this letter and any attached documents available to the public. We will do this by publishing this letter and attachments 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



Darrin Haimona
Deputy Chief Executive
Māori, Partnerships and Communities