



## Proactive Release

### Submissions on the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy

August 2019

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet has released the following submission received during its public consultation on the child and youth wellbeing strategy.

Some of the information contained within this release is considered to not be appropriate to release and, if requested, would be withheld under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

- Where this is the case, the information has been withheld, and the relevant section of the Act that would apply, has been identified.
- Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

#### Key to redaction codes and their reference to sections of the Act:

- **9(2)a** – Section 9(2)(a): to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people.

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## MChild and Youth Wellbeing Strategy – Submission Template

This document is intended for individuals or groups who wish to make a formal submission on the child and youth wellbeing strategy.

Please complete this template and email it to: [childandyouthwellbeing@dpmc.govt.nz](mailto:childandyouthwellbeing@dpmc.govt.nz)

A guide to making a submission is available on the DPMC website <https://dpmc.govt.nz/our-programmes/child-and-youth-wellbeing-strategy>

Submissions will close on **Wednesday 5 December**.

**Please provide details for a contact person in case we have some follow up questions.**

<b>Contact Name:</b>	Mischele Rhodes (President)
<b>Email Address:</b>	hamiltonratepayers@gmail.com
<b>Phone Number:</b>	9(2) (a)
<b>Organisation Name:</b>	Hamilton Residents & Ratepayers Assn Inc.
<b>Organisation description:</b> (tell us about your organisation – i.e. who do you represent? How many members do you have? Are you a local or national organisation?)	<p>We are local to Hamilton City with membership and contact lists totalling over 400.</p> <p>We represent residents and ratepayers of Hamilton and surrounding districts (where people do not have a local association).</p> <p>We will be affiliated to a newly formed Ratepayer Associations' of NZ.</p>

**Executive Summary:**

(Please provide a short summary of the key points of your Submission - 200 words)

Our core directive (we do not make submissions) is that the issue of out of control rates increases is directly related to child/family poverty and thus child wellbeing and must be addressed urgently.

## Submission Content

*As stated above I do not make submissions but here is my directive.*

*I have been involved with this Association since 2006 working with people at the grassroots level and hearing the despair by many due to actions meted out by our local councils' – Hamilton City and Waikato Regional and of course the many others in the country.*

*We find that it is increasingly evident that child poverty is directly related to “family poverty” with their budget being gouged by out of control council spending throughout New Zealand via rates/taxes. There is too much spent on “nice to have’s” and not enough maintaining the necessary infrastructure councils’ were set up for originally.*

*The Mangawhai Ratepayers story has set a precedent (in law) in that any council in New Zealand can and do put ratepayers and their property rights in jeopardy because of their out of control spending is NOT ACCOUNTABLE to ratepayers. Our homes are being mortgaged further directly by councils increasing their DEBT without ratepayer approval.*

*Mangawhai people have endured the last few years challenging a huge “unlawful” debt foisted on them by Kaipara District Council (with a sewage scheme no one needed) who did not consult with them. Having been through all the courts, the Serious Fraud Office, Ombudsman, Attorney General the debt was consecutively ajudged unlawful but the ratepayers received no remedy and are being made to pay. The “corporate” courts are not about justice but protecting this “corporate entity” that calls itself “the New Zealand Government” and its “corporate” councils. Corporations by their nature are about creating “profit” and this does not include caring for the people. What this country needs is to be under Common Law (not Corporate) for the Common People on the Common Land – a system that “serves the people”.*

*We see an inevitable trainwreck of homelessness if this government does not address this dire problem where we will no longer have a right to own our own homes and the current young generation who are saddled with student debt will never either. So the question remains “who will OWN New Zealand” if our ability to retain home/ land ownership is taken from us?*

*Waikato Regional Council has spend millions on PlanChange 1/Healthy Rivers in a half hearted effort to address water quality by “monitoring” E.coli, sediments, nitrogen & phosphorus (does not include the bad culprits like Roundup/glyphosate, fluorides-hydrofluorosilicic acid and 1080 poisons, pesticides and herbicides contaminating in our drinking water-here’s a start to reduce child illness by removing these). Waikato Regional Council will be sending our farming families to bankruptcy via compliance costs and over-regulation then overseas corporations will help themselves to our lands under the Trans Pacific Partnership Agreement to do their “dirty farming” uninterrupted. Our wealth in the Waikato region relies on the productivity our farming and if this ceases poverty will be rife.*

*This programme of Healthy Rivers in its present form needs to cease. Millions have been wasted and not one drop of water made clean.....*

*A remedy for councils (and government departments) is to use the Public Finance Act to borrow for infrastructure from our own Reserve Bank of New Zealand at nominal interest or none with a possible administration fee. This will then enable interest presently going to the overseas banks of some \$4.5b annually which would be better spent on children's health & nutrition and kept for the betterment of all kiwi families and so on.*

*The LGFA (Local govt. Funding Agency) should be disbanded. All member councils' guarantee each others debt. An example is that if Hamilton City Council miraculously repaid its \$450m debt ratepayers in Hamilton would still be liable to pay Auckland Supercity's debt of some \$7b + - do councillors who vote to borrow from the LGFA actually KNOW they are INDEBTING the wider community of ratepayers?????*

*I think not.*

*The Late Penny Bright (of Auckland) had many answers to our problems through her demanding transparency with especially the Public Records Act being enforced for councils' and to bring the "contracts"(of works) for councils' being brought back "inhouse". Let's move ahead with adopting her common sense approach by delving into the paperwork she left with government.*

Please note that your submission will become official information. This means that the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet may be required to release all or part of the information contained in your submission in response to a request under the Official Information Act 1982.

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet may withhold all or parts of your submission if it is necessary to protect your privacy or if it has been supplied subject to an obligation of confidence.

Please tell us if you don't want all or specific parts of your submission released, and the reasons why. Your views will be taken into account in deciding whether to withhold or release any information requested under the Official Information Act and in deciding if, and how, to refer to your submission in any possible subsequent paper prepared by the Department.