



## 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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## Child 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>   | 9(2)□(a)  |
| <b>Email Address:</b>  |   |
| <b>Phone Number:</b>   |   |
| <b>Organisation Name:</b>  | [Please include if you are submitting on behalf of an organisation]   |
| <b>Organisation description:</b><br>(tell us about your organisation – i.e. who do you represent? How many members do you have? Are you a local or national organisation?) |   |
| <b>Executive Summary:</b><br>(Please provide a short summary of the key points of your Submission - 200 words)   | <p>There is good evidence that exposure of pregnant women to fluoride, such as is contained in fluoridated water with 0.7 mg F/L (or 0.7 ppm), can lead to a lowered IQ and increased ADHD symptoms in children. This work from 2017 and 2018 by Bashash et al., Thomas et al. and Bashash et al. was not addressed by the 2014 report on water fluoridation commissioned by Sir Peter Gluckman and Sir David Skegg.</p> <p>The lowered IQ associated with fluoride exposure during pregnancy has been linked to lowered school performance.</p> <p>Pregnant women exposed to fluoridated water have disturbed thyroid hormone metabolism and this is the likely mechanism for the reduced IQ in their children, especially when moderate-to-severe iodine deficiency is present in the mothers.</p> <p>Accordingly, the wellbeing of children will be enhanced by passing legislation prohibiting the adding of fluoride to public water supplies.</p> |

## Submission Content

There is good evidence that exposure of pregnant women to fluoride, such as is contained in fluoridated water with 0.7 mg F/L (or 0.7 ppm), can lead to a lowered IQ and increased ADHD symptoms in children. This work from 2017 and 2018 by Bashash et al., Thomas et al. and Bashash et al. was not addressed by the 2014 report on water fluoridation commissioned by Sir Peter Gluckman and Sir David Skegg.

The lowered IQ associated with fluoride exposure during pregnancy has been linked to lowered school performance.

Pregnant women exposed to fluoridated water have disturbed thyroid hormone metabolism and this is the likely mechanism for the reduced IQ in their children, especially when moderate-to-severe iodine deficiency is present in the mothers.

Accordingly, the wellbeing of children will be enhanced by passing legislation prohibiting the adding of fluoride to public water supplies.

The following references are available at <http://www.fluorideresearch.org> or, on request, from me 9(2)(a)

### References:

1. Spittle B. The effect of the fluoride ion on reproductive parameters and an estimate of the safe daily dose of fluoride to prevent female infertility and miscarriage and foetal neurotoxicity [editorial]. *Fluoride* 2017;50(3):287-91.
2. Spittle B. Prevention of fluoride ion-induced IQ loss in children [editorial]. *Fluoride* 2017;50(4):385-92.
3. Spittle B. Fluoride, IQ, emotion and children's school performance [editorial]. *Fluoride* 2018;51(2):98-101.
4. Spittle B. Fluoride. Fluoride-induced developmental disorders and iodine deficiency disorders as examples of developmental disorders due to disturbed thyroid hormone metabolism [editorial]. *Fluoride* 2018;51(4):307-18.

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.