



## 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.**

Contact Name:	JGCD QD
Email Address:	
Phone Number:	
Organisation Name:	[Please include if you are submitting on behalf of an organisation]
Organisation description: (tell us about your organisation – i.e. who do you represent? How many members do you have? Are you a local or national organisation?)	
Executive Summary: (Please provide a short summary of the key points of your Submission - 200 words)	OT is not containing or reducing the cost of violence against children. Herewith a radical rethink of OTs purpose to support children to heal from the effects of violence by ensuring access to appropriate services; and monitoring positive outcomes for children with trauma symptoms at intake.

## **Submission Content**

*I have worked with child mental health issues for thirty years either in ADHB or OT.*

JGCD QD

*In my practice across all previous work locations, I see the link between children's failure to achieve and thrive, with exposure to violence and neglect (physical psychological and sexual trauma).*

*Trauma interferes with the natural progression of child and adolescent development. Trauma inhibits children's potential and provides a breeding ground for further abuse; school failure (a traumatised mind cannot learn with any consistency) alcohol and drug addiction; and a wide variety of physical and mental health problems.*

*Over the years OT has manifested a variety of assessment tools for children with trauma. However as soon as the children are deemed 'safe' OT intervention stops. The case is closed.*

*Currently OT acts as a broker for trauma by identifying risk and ensuring young people are not living with abusive parents/caregivers. Whilst it 'makes children safe' this does nothing to address the trauma carried within.*

*No one agency bears the responsibility for ensuring traumatised children get the services they need to heal.*

*My proposal is to change the key performance measures of OT.*

*I suggest that OT has key performance measures relating to the need for young people to get the trauma informed therapy they require to heal; and OT not be complicit in perpetuating the abuse down through the generations.*

*The key question should be /Ok this child has been abused; which agency can provide the healing work for the child and caregiver, required to break the cycle of abuse. And this should be funded regardless if the abuse is sexual physical or psychological.*

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.