



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

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:	9(2) □(a)
Email Address:	
Phone Number:	027 333 6963
Organisation Name:	Tauranga Youth Development Team Incorporated
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?)	<p>Our vision is to engage, connect and inform young people and those who work with young people in the Bay of Plenty.</p> <p>Our organisation has been of benefit to the community since 2010, our objectives are to:</p> <p>Engage</p> <p>Provision of projects and events enabling participation and engagement in the areas of :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership & Engagement • Social Action/Advocacy • Health & Wellbeing • Sport, Recreation & Entertainment • Education Training & Employment • Arts & Culture. <p>Connect</p> <p>Young people and those who work with young people.</p> <p>Inform</p> <p>Be the seeker and conduit of good information to inform the youth sector.</p> <p>Our priority population is young people aged 11 – 24. However, the average age of those who we have found to participate in our initiatives are 12 – 18 years of age.</p> <p>We include young people and agencies from all demographic backgrounds which compliments the outcomes of our work, so we are able to represent as many young people across the region as possible.</p>

	<p>Our purpose is to improve the wellbeing of young people in the Bay of Plenty and provide them with youth development opportunities that are participatory and allow them to influence change in their community.</p> <p>Furthermore, to have input into youth service design and delivery.</p> <p>TYDT is made up of the "Youth Services Network" - a network of agencies and service providers who work with young people and, VOYD (Voice of Youth Development) Our approach is a ground up one and is done with and for our agencies and young people.</p> <p>We work in partnership with community centres, schools, DHB, local government, NGO's, agencies and young people to deliver outputs.</p> <p>We have recently revised our strategic plan with the assistance of an external mentor, Key outcomes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To significantly shape our environment here in the Bay and put BOP on the map, being a region that is active in positive youth development • Be the 'go to' organisation for all things youth, the lead brand practicing positive youth development in the Bay of Plenty • Enable young people and those who work with young people (services and agencies) to be connected, strengthened and developed • Ensure that young people in the BOP have connected and accessible services that meet their needs and aspirations • Continue to provide direct one-on-one projects for young people, along with supporting consistent youth services across the sector, enabling youth to access services they need and want; in whichever area they live • Take on new projects that generate net revenue where they are aligned to the strategic plan and within the resource capabilities of TYDT; i.e. we will not take on work that distracts us from our goals and/or may have the potential to confuse or damage our brand with youth/clients. We will endeavour not to duplicate the work that others are doing. We are here to provide for gaps in the market.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a funding and business model that ensures TYDT can serve BOP youth sustainably into the future while maintaining the current approach to projects and services for its clients.
<p>Executive Summary: (Please provide a short summary of the key points of your Submission - 200 words)</p>	<p>Our submission of support focuses on the proposed outcomes that young people (i) Belong, contribute and are valued, (ii) Have what they need, and (iii) Are happy and healthy, as these outcomes most closely reflect Tauranga Youth Develop Team’s values and goals. However, we are in support of all the proposed outcomes for Aotearoa’s children and young people outlined in the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy.</p> <p>Tauranga Youth Development Team’s feedback reflects the voice of rangatahi in Tauranga and the Western Bay of Plenty area that we, as an organisation, have gained an understanding of through engaging and working with rangatahi and youth focused agencies in our area.</p> <p>We also draw evidence from;</p> <p>Tauranga Youth Development Team. (2017). <i>Directions</i>. Retrieved from: http://tydt.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/TYD170201-Directions-Report-Web-2.pdf</p> <p>Centre for Social Impact. (2015). <i>Positive outcomes and positive futures for youth in the BayTrust area</i>. Retrieved from: http://www.baytrust.org.nz/vdb/document/9</p>

Submission Content

<p>(i) Belong, contribute and are valued</p>	<p>Children have improved opportunities for civic engagement and environmental awareness</p>	<p><i>Tauranga Youth Development Team (TYDT) strongly believe that rangatahi should be, and desire to be, engaged in the development of their communities. This includes providing opportunities for rangatahi to have their voices heard regarding design and evaluation of services.</i></p> <p><i>The 2017 Directions project (Tauranga Youth Development Team) revealed that rangatahi value having a community where they have a voice and are listened to, as well as valuing opportunities to participate in their community in a meaningful way. This is in-line with the Child Wellbeing Strategy’s focus area for “children to have improved opportunities for civic engagement and environmental awareness.”</i></p> <p><i>Positive Outcomes and Positive Futures for Youth in the BayTrust Area (Centre for Social Impact, 2015) also asserts that encouraging rangatahi’s sense of contribution and connection through civic engagement contributes to positive outcomes. Centre for Social Impact’s (2015) report goes on to support the proposed child wellbeing strategy outcome that rangatahi belong, contribute and are valued, saying that situations where youth can participate, lead and have their involvement respected are vital to positive youth development.</i></p> <p><i>The importance of Te Reo and Te Ao Maori were also revealed as a key theme in the Directions project (TYDT, 2017) with rangatahi desiring opportunities for Maori culture to be included and opportunities to increase their own and the wider community’s cultural understanding. In turn, youth</i></p>
	<p>Children’s cultures are celebrated, and Te Ao Maori and Te Reo Maori are promoted.</p>	

			<i>agencies and service providers also desire a whole of community approach and strong iwi connections and support to support young people's needs (TYDT, 2017).</i>
(ii)	Have what they need	Children and whanau have equitable access to timely, good quality resources	<p><i>Rangatahi from rural and urban areas have identified lack of transport as a barrier to accessing services (TYDT, 2017). It is our hope that this issue is taken into consideration when addressing the focus area "children and whanau have equitable access to timely, good quality services"</i></p> <p><i>Insufficient resources and finances has been noted by young people and service providers as a barrier to equitable access to services. For service providers funding and resourcing issues can impact on their ability to respond to the complex needs of young people accessing their services. For some young people access to education, training, work and physical and mental health services is significantly impacted by their lack of financial resources. Participants of the Directions project (TYDT, 2017) commented that improved infrastructure with the needs of rangatahi and low-income families at the forefront would better enable them to connect with their communities and access services.</i></p> <p><i>TYDT supports the focus on children and whanau having equitable access to timely, good quality resources as rangatahi have revealed that they want accessible and relevant services, and both young people and agencies want youth to be involved in the design, delivery and evaluation of relevant services (TYDT, 2017).</i></p>
(iii)	Are happy and healthy	Children's mental wellbeing is supported	<i>Access to appropriate holistic health care and wellbeing options is an integral part of enabling young people to engage in all areas of society. Tauranga agencies and service providers</i>

		<p><i>expressed the need for free and accessible physical and mental health services to ensure that rangatahi's mental health and wellbeing needs are being met. Alongside this rangatahi have expressed the need for greater access to relevant information for themselves and for adults to have a clear understanding of the mental health issues they face.</i></p>
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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.