

Hon Poto Williams

MP for Christchurch East

Minister for Building and Construction

Minister of Police

Associate Minister for Children

Associate Minister of Housing (Public Housing)



- 7 JUL 2021

Mr John Luke

fyi-request-15746-fb81e8c2@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Mr Luke

Thank you for your email of 11 June 2021 to Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for children, requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

I would like to request a list of vacancy (ministerial appointment only, e.g. board member, Lay member, Trustee etc) that the nomination period has been closed but still under consideration by the Oranga Tamariki or relevant Minister.

In your list, can you please include the date that vacancy been advertised, what method you have used to publicly advertise the position and when the vacancy been closed as well.

Also, I would like to know if you have any future opening in 2021. e.g. the position that will call for nomination in the year of 2021.

Generally speaking, how you publicly call for nomination and what platform you are using to ensure the public awareness of your state sector board vacancy. If you don't publicly advertise it, can you please let me know how you make the decision not to and what's your rationale behind it?

The part of your request related to Ministerial appointments made by the Associate Minister for Children has been transferred to my Office.

As Associate Minister for children I am responsible for the appointment of members to Oranga Tamariki Residence Grievance Panels. Oranga Tamariki operates eight residences for tamariki and rangatahi and the ninth residence is operated by Barnardos under contract to Oranga Tamariki. Each residence has in place a grievance procedure as set out in the Oranga Tamariki (Residential Care) Regulations 1996. This provides a forum for young people placed in residences to articulate their concerns and to have their complaints addressed.

An independent grievance panel for each residence is appointed by the Associate Minister for Children, to oversee grievances made by tamariki and rangatahi and carry out any subsequent investigations. The Panel is comprised of two community members and one tangata whenua member who is nominated by mana whenua from the location of the residence.

The Oranga Tamariki (Residential Care) Regulations 1996 specify that residence grievance panel appointments are 'at the Minister's pleasure' and the terms of office do not have a specified end-date.

Nominations Process

In accordance with the Oranga Tamariki (Residential Care) Regulations 1996 and with the Board Appointment Guidelines produced by the Te Kawa Mataaho – Public Service Commission, Oranga Tamariki undertakes the following process for nominations and appointments.

1. Seeking nominations

- At any time, members of the community can submit an expression of interest to the Grievance Panel Coordinator by email to be considered for the role of a Grievance Panellist if a vacancy arises.
- On receiving a resignation from a current Grievance Panellist, Oranga Tamariki checks the 'pool database' which contains the details of people who have previously expressed an interest in becoming a panellist in the location of the vacancy.
- The Minister is advised of the resignation and they write to their Cabinet colleagues seeking nominations.
- For tangata whenua members, local iwi from the area of the residence are asked to provide a nomination to Oranga Tamariki.
- Government agencies who hold nomination databases are invited to submit nominations including the Ministry for Women, Te Puni Kokiri, Ministry for Pacific Peoples, Office of Ethnic Communities and Office of Disability Issues.
- Public advertising is carried out on channels such as the Oranga Tamariki website, NZ Government Jobs, Seek and LinkedIn.

2. Candidate assessment

- Candidates are assessed against the competencies outlined in the Position Profile and Information Brief including conflicts of interest.
- A shortlist is determined.
- Shortlisted candidates are interviewed.
- Reference checks are carried out.
- Due diligence checks (police vetting etc) are completed.

3. Stakeholder consultation

- In accordance with the Regulations, the Children's Commissioner, the Principal Youth Court Judge and the Principal Family Court Judge are consulted on preferred candidates.

4. Recommendation to Minister

- The Chief Executive of Oranga Tamariki makes recommendations for appointments to the Minister for Children, or the Minister with delegations for the Grievance Panel.

5. Cabinet confirmation

- A paper is drafted for the Cabinet Appointment and Honours Committee to note the Minister's intention to appoint.
- Once candidates are confirmed, induction of the new panellists is commenced.

Current Vacancies

There are ten current vacancies at Oranga Tamariki Residence Grievance Panels. Community member vacancies for Te Maioha o Parekarangi in Rotorua (2 vacancies), Epuni in Wellington (1 vacancy), Te Puna Wai o Tuhinapo in Christchurch (2 vacancies) and Te Poutama Ārahi Rangatahi in Christchurch (1 vacancy) are currently sitting at stage four of the process outlined above. These vacancies were publicly advertised on 5 February 2021 and closed for applications on 28 February 2021.

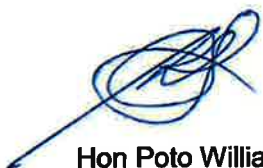
Tangata Whenua Member vacancies for Te Poutama Ārahi Rangatahi in Christchurch (one vacancy) and Puketai in Dunedin (one vacancy) are currently sitting at stage one of the process outlined above.

Community Member vacancies for Te Oranga in Christchurch (one vacancy) and Puketai in Dunedin (one vacancy) are currently sitting at stage 1 of the process outlined above. The vacancy for Te Oranga was publicly advertised on 23 June 2021 and will close on 30 July 2021. We expect to publicly advertise the vacancy for Puketai before 9 July and will close on 30 July 2021.

Future Vacancies

Vacancies become available when a current Grievance Panel Member resigns, which can be at any time during their tenure. I have not been advised of any potential upcoming vacancies.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Hon Poto Williams
Associate Minister for Children