

Ministry for Women Weekly Report to the Minister for Women

As at 7 March 2019

Part 1: Current priority outcome areas

The contribution of all women and girls is valued

Meeting with Minister for Māori Development

We have provided talking points for your meeting on Thursday, 7 March 2019, with Minister Mahuta on the joint work programme with Te Puni Kōkiri and the Mana Wāhine Kaupapa Inquiry.

[Tracking log item: MW 18-19 0347]

Carers' Strategy Action Plan

You have received a letter from Minister Sepuloni seeking your support through the Cabinet process for the NZ Carers' Strategy Action Plan, in both your roles as Minister for Women, and Associate Minister of Health. In particular, Minister Sepuloni is asking you to consider signing the Action Plan as a population portfolio Minister, and support:

- measures to support women carers to continue to participate in their community, study, and work, while undertaking caring roles
- increased recognition of all carers, while acknowledging the majority of carers are women
- the improved quality, availability, and flexibility of respite support
- the continued progress of the Ministry of Health's work to address the Funded Family Care issues.

We will provide advice on 26 March 2018 to respond to Minister Sepuloni's letter.

We will continue to work with the Ministry for Health (and other agencies) to provide you with a response to the Carers' Strategy Action Plan, and consider how to include the plan as part of our work programme on the contribution and value of women's unpaid work.

[Tracking log item: MW 18-19 0371]

Recent Labour Market reporting

HLFS (Household Labour Force Survey) – last quarter

The Ministry for Women and the Reserve Bank both followed up with StatsNZ on understanding the background to the adjustments that had been made to the last quarter's labour market statistics

StatsNZ found that a portion of respondents deliberately misreported their labour force status (from 'employed' to 'not in the labour force (NILF)') to avoid additional Survey of Working Life questions. StatsNZ therefore adjusted some NILFs into the 'employed' category. We support this approach.

[Tracking log item: n/a]

NEET (not in employment, education, or training)

Last quarter, StatsNZ made more contacts toward the end of the survey period due to the effect of survey avoidance. This increased the chances of capturing school leavers who were not in paid work, or enrolled in education. StatsNZ considers the NEET rate for the December quarter should be used cautiously. Agencies do expect NEET rates to rise for the December quarter and, because of small numbers, make annual comparisons.

The HLFS has been reporting a decline in female NEET rates, from roughly double the rate of males in 2004 – 2006, to roughly equivalent rates in 2017 and in 2018. We attribute this to reduced numbers of NEET young women caring, corresponding with reduced recorded births for this age group. We are waiting on Census 2018 results for more detail on NEETs, such as by ethnicity and sex. We have also recently spoken with Ministry of Social Development officials about research to understand the fall in numbers of young mothers and have provided them with contacts and recent research to assist with this.

[Tracking log item: n/a]

All women and girls are financially secure and can fully participate and thrive

Gender Pay Gap and Pay Equity Taskforce Update

On 6 March 2019, you received the Taskforce's monthly progress report. This report updated you on the implementation of the Gender Pay Gap Action Plan and progress on Pay Equity oversight and claims in the State sector.

[Tracking log item: MW 18-19 0360]

Equal Pay Act Amendment Bill

The Education and Workforce Select Committee had its final hearing on the Bill on Wednesday (6 March 2019). Key themes raised by submitters included: issues of accessibility to information and a desire to have access to a separate pay equity unit/agency. The provisions for back pay were criticised by some submitters as being confusing.

[Tracking log item: n/a]

All women and girls are free from all forms of violence and harassment

Joint Venture on Family Violence and Sexual Violence and Whānau Violence

The Joint Venture on Family Violence and Sexual Violence and Whānau Violence has advised that it is planning to provide an update to Under-Secretary Jan Logie, in the last week of March.

[Tracking log item: n/a]

System leadership, impact and reputation

Communications

International Women's Day and the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW63)

The Ministry has continued to receive enquiries from organisations for activities and events on International Women's Day 2019 (Friday, 8 March 2019). We have promoted the website listing of events on social media, to encourage participation.

Several Ministry officials will attend the UN Women/Zonta breakfast at Parliament, and take part in the bike ride at lunch time (weather dependent), on Friday, 8 March. Three officials are attending a British High Commission stakeholder event on Thursday evening, 7 March, and one is attending an event on Saturday, 9 March, with the High Commissioner of Malaysia in collaboration with the National Council of Women of New Zealand and the Multicultural Council of Wellington. Another official is attending, also on Friday, 8 March, the NZCTU International Women's Day launch of the film *Harriet Morison: Unionist and Suffragist*. This is a film that received funding from the Suffrage 125 Community Fund. These events are useful opportunities for stakeholder engagement on the Ministry's work.

The focus next week, the week beginning Monday, 11 March 2019, will be to share the activities from the Commission on the Status of Women, particularly the presentation of the National Statement.

[Tracking log item: n/a]

International

Commission on the Status of Women 63 (CSW63)

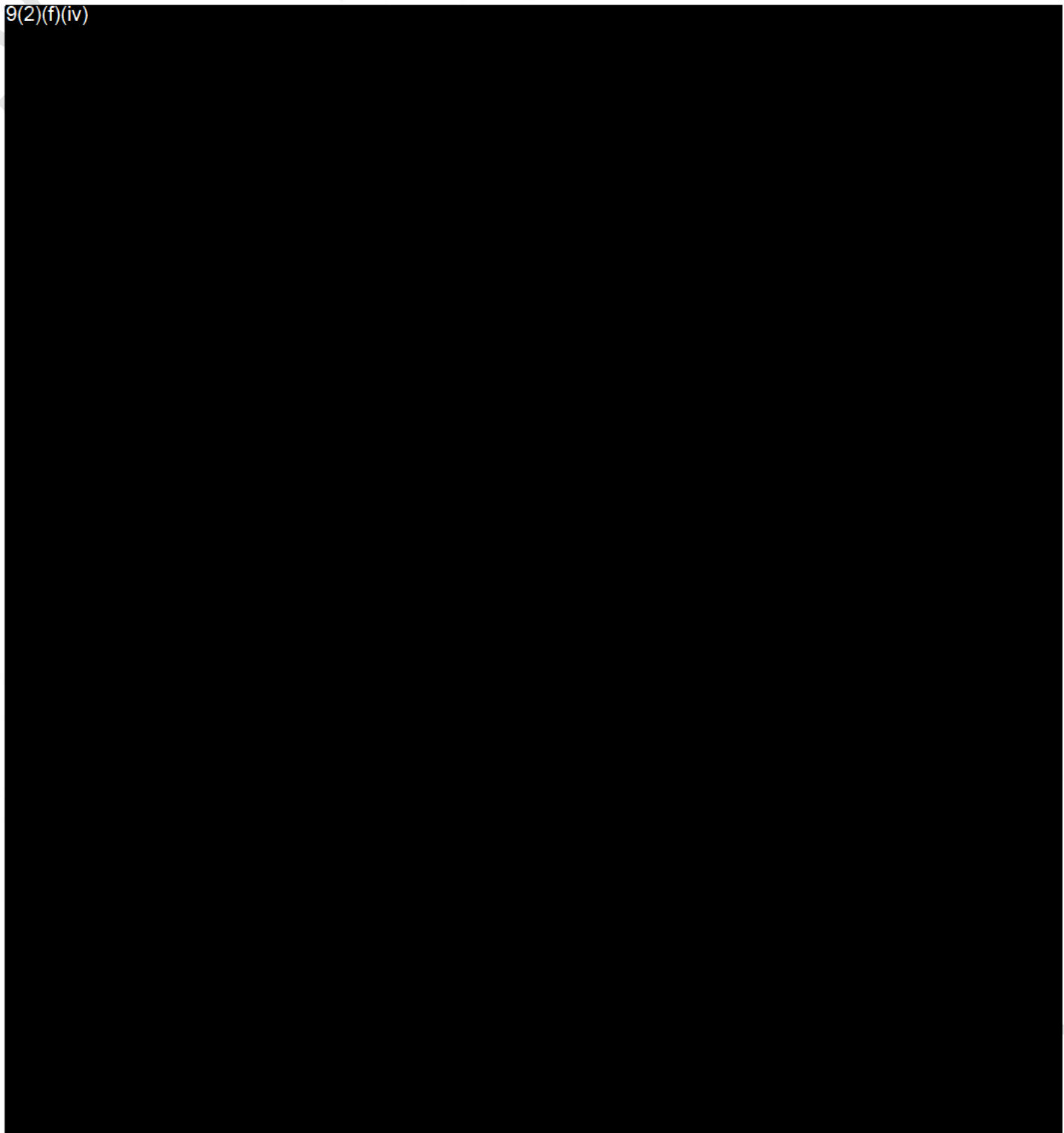
This week we provided your office with an early draft of the briefing pack for your attendance at CSW63. You will receive your final briefing on Friday, 8 March 2019. On arrival in New York, you will also receive a briefing containing an overview of your engagements from Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade officials.

The Prime Minister has prepared a video for the 'How Women Leaders Change the World' event, scheduled for Tuesday morning (12 March). We have shared the video with your office.

[Tracking log item: MW 18-19 0356]

Part 2: Operational matters

9(2)(f)(iv)



9(2)(f)(iv)

Proactive release of historical Official Information Act requests

As part of the Ministry's ongoing work to proactively release information via the Ministry's website, we intend to shortly publish Official Information Act (OIA) responses from the period July to November 2018. Topics included in these OIA responses are: statistics for boards, the BDMRR Bill, Koru Club spend, and staffing questions such as information on personal grievances and bullying. Prior to releasing these responses, we will share the list with your office.

[Tracking log item: n/a]

Part 3: Policy advice (in progress)

Type	Subject	Log Number	Due date
Memo	9(2)(f)(iv)	MW 18-19 0310	7 March 2019
Talking Points (data)	Minister Mahuta - data on Māori women	MW 18-19 0368	7 March 2019
Briefing	CSW63 - Programme (final)	MW 18-19 0356	8 March 2019
Memo	Update: sexual harassment work programme	MW 18-19 0344	13 March 2019
Briefing	Update on gender in Indicators Aotearoa New Zealand	MW 18-19 0329	18 March 2019
Briefing	Proactive release practices from the Ministry for Women	MW 18-19 0337	21 March 2019
Memo	NZ Carers' Strategy Action Plan - advice on letter from Minister Sepuloni	MW 18-19 0371	26 March 2019
Memo	Gender analysis tool - summary of feedback from users	MW 18-19 0357	28 March 2019

Part 4: Event and meeting briefings (in progress)

Type	Subject	Log Number	Due date
Op-ed	International Women's Day - op-ed for Radio Live	MW 18-19 0366	11 March 2019
Briefing	Launch options for the gender analysis tool	MW 18-19 0330	14 March 2019
Talking Points	Auckland University of Technology - launch of pay equity care workers research - pre-recording of video on 20 March 2019	MW 18-19 0369	18 March 2019
Speech/Talking Points	Minister's visit, 8 April 2019, to Wellington Women Lawyers' Association	MW 18-19 0331	1 April 2019
Briefing plus speech notes	Her Voice convention, Wanaka, 13 April 2019	MW 18-19 0345	3 April 2019
Talking Points	Minister Genter interview with Japanese TV (10 April 2019) - response to interview question	MW 18-19 0365	3 April 2019

Part 5: Ministerial correspondence (in progress)

Subject	Log Number	Due date
9(2)(f)(iv)	MW 18-19 0370	12 March 2019
Support for victims of sexual violence	MW 18-19 0355	13 March 2019

Part 6: WPQs/OIA/Ombudsman/Privacy Act requests to the Minister/Ministry (in progress)

Subject	Log number	Due date (to Minister)	Due date (to requestor)
Ministerial OIAs			
9(2)(a) [REDACTED] – Minister OIAs - 2017 General Election - present (23 September 2017 to 25 January 2019)	MW 18-19 0324	n/a	11 March 2019 (with extension – previously noted as 4 March 2019)
9(2)(a) [REDACTED] – BDMRR Bill	MW 18-19 0339	11 March 2019	18 March 2019
9(2)(a) [REDACTED] – Reports submitted to Cabinet (by Minister Genter) for international travel - USA, March 2018 and Europe, May to June 2018	MW 18-19 0348	Sent to Minister 27 February 2019	25 March 2019
9(2)(a) [REDACTED] – International Women's Day breakfast - costs and key note speaker communication	MW 18-19 0350	Sent to Minister 6 March 2019	25 March 2019 (8 March 2019 - at the request of the requester)
Ministry OIAs			
9(2)(a) [REDACTED] – Demographic breakdown of Ministry for Women staff	MW 18-19 0338	Sent to Minister 5 March 2019	18 March 2019
9(2)(a) [REDACTED] – Furniture (spend on, reasons for spend, disposal of)	MW 18-19 0343	Sent to Minister 5 March 2019	19 March 2019
9(2)(a) [REDACTED] – International travel Under Secretary Logie July 2018 - Ministry for Women participation	MW 18-19 0351	19 March 2019	26 March 2019

Part 7: Cabinet papers consulted on

Committee/Date	Title of paper	Department	Comments
Nil			

Part 8: Publications and events in the next six months

Publication/event	Date	Agency lead
Public event (bike ride) for International Women's Day	8 March 2019	Ministry for Women
Pānui wāhine (Autumn issue)	late March 2019	Ministry for Women
<i>To be confirmed by the Taskforce –</i> Event with SSC on starting salaries in the public service	proposed date - end of April 2019	Taskforce
Women in Governance/Gender Stocktake	April/May 2019	Ministry for Women
Release of the Gender Analysis Tool	late May 2019	Ministry for Women
Publication of the 2018 literature scan on international responses to sexual harassment	May-June 2019	Ministry for Women
Pānui wāhine (Winter issue)	June 2019	Ministry for Women



Renee Graham
Chief Executive



Hon Julie Anne Genter
Minister for Women

Date: 15 March 2019