

# **Fortnightly Report Minister for Women**

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**14 February 2025**

## Current priority outcome areas

### International Women's Caucus meeting 11 February 2025

The Ministry convened the first International Women's Caucus meeting for the year on Tuesday 11 February 2025. This meeting was co-hosted by UN Women Aotearoa New Zealand and attended by over 23 women's organisations. UN Women Aotearoa New Zealand delivered a presentation on their organisation's work and chaired several agenda items during the session. Your attendance and engagement with the group was well received and greatly appreciated by Caucus members.

A key theme of the meeting was addressing online harm for women in the public sphere. Key agenda items included a guest presentation on the work of the Online Safety Coalition and a facilitated discussion on the online harm toolkit currently under development.

Another strong focus of the meeting was discussing preparations for the 69th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW69). This included the introduction of the NGO representative on the CSW69 delegation, Erin Roxburgh, who will act as a liaison point between New Zealand-based NGOs and the New Zealand Government Delegation during CSW69.

On the request of Caucus members, the Ministry provided updates on two areas of work:

- Update on the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) Concluding Observations.
- Work underway led and funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) to refresh New Zealand's National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security by mid-2025. The previous Plan expired in 2019.

The meeting closed with a report back from Caucus members following their closed Caucus session, in which they highlighted the importance of meaningful engagement on international issues relevant to the interests and wellbeing of women and girls.

### Gender Pay Gap Roadshows

The Ministry is working with your office to confirm dates and details for upcoming GPG roadshows.

The next roadshow is confirmed to take place on Thursday 20 March in Auckland, in partnership with a range of businesses including Westpac, Tonkin Taylor, Spark and Global Women.

We are also confirming details for a Wellington event in March and exploring partnerships with Westpac or TradeMe to host this event.

Other dates and locations for the roadshow include:

- 16 April – Nelson, where we are working with Nelson Tasman Chamber to support the event
- 9 May – Christchurch, where Business Canterbury has confirmed they will host

9(2)(f)(iv)

## Update on Bronda Smith's petition on menopause

The Petitions Committee recently heard the oral submission of Bronda Smith on her petition to increase support for perimenopause and menopause. The petition requested: menopause training for GPs and medical students; menopause awareness and support in workplaces; and menopause to be included in the school curriculum.

In November 2024, at the invitation of the Petitions Committee, the Ministry for Women made a written submission on Bronda Smith's petition. The Ministry's submission acknowledged that menopause symptoms can have a significant impact on women's lives and that women want more information and support. We supported further consideration of how to increase menopause awareness and support in workplaces.

9(2)(g)(i)

9(2)(f)(iv)

## Ministerial Servicing

### Policy advice and reports in progress

Type	Title	Log number	Due date
Briefing	March Baseline Update (MBU)	MW BR 24-25 0133	19 Feb

### Event and meeting briefings in progress

Type	Title	Log number	Due date
Aide memoire	Meeting with Hon Costello, Associate Minister of Health	MW AM 24-25 0132	17 Feb
Aide memoire	Meeting with Crayon, Stephanie Pow and Tania Domett	MW AM 24-25 0128	26 Feb

Event and meeting briefings in progress			
Type	Title	Log number	Due date
Aide memoire	Meeting with Shepherdess	MW AM 24-25 0129	26 Feb
Aide memoire	Meeting with Empower Women	MW AM 24-25 0139	5 Mar

Ministerial letters and responses		
Subject	Log number	Due date
Public health waiting lists for single women	MW 24-25 0138	26 Feb

Minister for Women Official Information Act requests in progress		
Subject	Log number	Due to requester
Any written advice during the week of 3 February 2025 – 9(2)(a) [REDACTED]	NGOIA030	10 Mar

Cabinet paper consultations		
9(2)(f)(iv) [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

### Proactive release

This Fortnightly Report will be considered for release within three months of publication, under the Ministry's 'proactive release of documents' policy.