

Fortnightly Report Minister for Women

12 September 2025

Current priority outcome areas

withheld 9(2)(f)(iv)



withheld 9(2)(ba)(i)

**Upcoming launch of Retirement Commission's research into women's retirement outcomes**

A new report into women's retirement journeys will be launched next Wednesday, 17 September, at a panel event in Auckland.

The Retirement Commissioner, Jane Wrightson, will speak at the Women, Work and Retirement event alongside panellists Tracey Cross (Empower Women), EuMun Chen (Martin Jenkins) who helped compile the report, and Zebunisso Alimova (Financial Advice New Zealand's Women in Financial Advice). You have also provided pre-recorded remarks to be broadcast, and a Ministry official will attend the event.

The report takes a life-course approach and focuses on six key stages, or 'moments that matter' when looking at women's retirement outcomes. The six stages are:

- formal education and training
- work
- relationship status
- parenting
- housing tenure
- retirement.

We fed into the report, including identifying links to the Ministry's research into barriers accessing childcare and the drivers of the gender pay gap.

Ministry officials are also meeting next week with the Retirement Commission's senior leaders to discuss further opportunities for collaboration to improve women's retirement outcomes through information sharing initiatives.

“The most valuable conversation we’re not having” – ANZ launches retirement campaign to close the retirement gap

A campaign framed around ANZ research that shows 60 percent of New Zealand women are reluctant to discuss their financial future was launched on Thursday 11 September. The campaign, which is aimed at closing the gender retirement gap, focuses on normalising conversations about money and retirement among women.

It includes social media content, podcasts, videos, and a free financial health check – available to everyone, regardless of whether they're an ANZ customer.

Secretary for Women, Kellie Coombes, spoke at the launch event as part of a panel discussion, alongside Kate Hannah (Retirement Commission) and Antonia Watson (CEO, ANZ New Zealand).

The campaign will run until International Women's Day in March 2026, and ANZ will top up two women's KiwiSaver accounts \$8,479 each month – the size of the gender retirement gap – until the end of the campaign.

Upcoming campaigns and social media activity

This year, suffrage week takes place from 15–21 September and coincides with Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori.

This presents an opportunity for the Ministry to recognise 132 years since women gained the right to vote, while also celebrating te reo Māori and the enduring leadership of wāhine Māori.

The Ministry has developed a campaign approach for the week acknowledging and commemorating both events.

Across the week, you and Ministry officials are attending a range of events, including the Rural Women NZ event in Christchurch, the Auckland Connection Series on women and retirement, and the Financial Services Council breakfast.

In addition, the Ministry will support and promote other events held by partner organisations, such as the National Association of Women in Construction panel discussion, the Kate Sheppard House celebrations, and exhibitions and gatherings taking place in Wellington, Waikato, Napier, and Auckland.

The Ministry's social media content across the week will use bilingual messaging, historical storytelling, and interactive formats to engage the public, spotlight wāhine Māori, and amplify both events.

Ministerial Servicing

Event and meeting briefings in progress

Type	Title	Log number	Due date
Aide Memoire	Rural Women NZ - Suffrage Day event	MW AM 25-26 0048	16 Sep
Aide Memoire	Meeting with Mindful Fashion	MW AM 25-26 0051	16 Sep
Aide Memoire	GPG Roadshow – Dunedin	MW AM 25-26 0050	18 Sep
Aide Memoire	Suffrage Day - St Margaret College AM and speech (speech due 19 September)	MW AM 25-26 0047	06 Oct

Official Information Act requests in progress

Subject	Log number	Due to requester
Ministry OIA requests		
Women's reproductive conditions and health issues in Aotearoa	MW DOIA 25-26 0009	15 Sep
Copies of documents related to changes in the Ministry's website	MW DOIA 25-26 0011	16 Sep
Information on pregnancy and managed isolation tickets	MW DOIA 25-26 0012	16 Sep

Cabinet paper consultations

Title	Comment	Agency	Due date
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**Parallel consultation with agencies and Ministers*

Proactive release

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