

Stewart, Ellen

From: Stewart, Ellen
Sent: Tuesday, 4 June 2024 12:18 pm
To: Macfarlane, Bridget
Subject: FW: Family Court Programme - June reporting deadlines
Attachments: FCA Policy report June 24.pptx; Adoption report June 24.pptx

Kia ora Bridget,

Out of scope
project, as adoption is on hold and **Out of scope**

We have no updates to provide on either



Ngā mihi nui, nā
Ellen

Ellen Stewart (she/her)
Kaitohutohu Kaupapa - Policy Advisor | Family Law
Courts and Justice Services | Policy Group
Tāhū o te Ture | Ministry of Justice
Phone: +64 4 524 9226

Out of scope

Stewart, Ellen

Out of scope

From: Macfarlane, Bridget <Bridget.Macfarlane@justice.govt.nz>
Sent: Friday, 24 May 2024 8:39 am
To: Stewart, Ellen <Ellen.Stewart@justice.govt.nz>
Subject: Te Kei o te Waka question

Hello – question from Megan on the adoption section in the judge report:

Out of scope
project is paused? Out of scope

is it public that the

What do you think?
Thanks,
Bridget

Bridget Macfarlane
Acting Manager – Family Law
Policy Group
s9(2)(a)
Justice Centre | 19 Aitken Street | Wellington

Stewart, Ellen

From: Kunowski, Sam
Sent: Monday, 24 June 2024 8:55 am
To: Stewart, Ellen; Noyce, Megan; Macfarlane, Bridget
Cc: Stephen-Smith, Naomi
Subject: RE: Ministerial Briefing on Adoption Law Reform for Agency Feedback

Thanks for this Ellen.

I noticed on the work programme characterisation they probably haven't got it quite right – we advised Minister McKee that eh work had been paused and there may be opportunities s9(2)(f)(iv) to continue it when capacity allowed. She didn't "approve" a pause so could get that corrected as part of our feedback.

Thanks
Sam

Out of scope

The primary recommendation of this briefing is that Minister Chhour meet with Ministers Goldsmith and McKee to discuss adoption law reform s9(2)(f)(iv) OT intends the briefing be shared with the Minister for Justice, Associate Minister of Justice, Minister for Internal Affairs, Minister for Immigration, and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Out of scope

Happy to discuss.

Ngā mihi nui, nā
Ellen

Ellen Stewart (she/her)

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Stewart, Ellen

From: Stewart, Ellen
Sent: Tuesday, 13 August 2024 2:59 pm
To: Stockwell, Rachel; Gray, Hannah
Subject: RCOI - Finding W (regarding adoption practices)

Out of scope

One of the aims of adoption law reform was to remedy this severing of whakapapa, at the very least repealing section 19 of the Adoption Act. Unfortunately, this work is currently paused and it's unclear when it'll be able to recommence.

Out of scope

Ngā mihi nui, nā
Ellen

Ellen Stewart (she/her)

Kaitohutohu Kaupapa - Policy Advisor | Family Law
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April Performance Summary

Name of the Initiative: Adoption Law Reform

Project RAG Status		
	Current Month's Status	Next Month's Forecasted Status
Overall	Amber	Amber
Schedule	Amber	Amber
Scope	Green	Green
Risks	Green	Green
Issues	Green	Green
Resources	Amber	Amber

Executive Update

- The second round of public engagement ended on 7 August 2022.
- As part of that engagement, the Ministry undertook targeted engagement with people impacted by adoption (including young people), Māori, Samoa, Tonga, Kiribati, and Tuvalu communities in New Zealand.
- The Ministry met with Judge Moran, Judge Pidwell and Judge Wills on 22 November 2022 to seek their views on some aspects of the policy development.
- The Ministry met with Judge Pidwell on 23 March 2023 to seek her views on initial thinking on access to court information for **Out of scope** adoption cases.
- Amber reflects some staff reallocation to other priority work, and uncertainty of Ministerial priority.

Progress Summary Points

Progress Since Last Report:

- Officials met with Judge Pidwell to discuss early thinking on access to court information for **Out of scope** adoption cases.
- Officials have been progressing work on refining a final package of proposals.

Upcoming Activities:

- Advice on a final package will be provided to the Minister in due course.

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May Performance Summary

Name of the Initiative: Adoption Law Reform

Project RAG Status		
	Current Month's Status	Next Month's Forecasted Status
Overall	Amber	Amber
Schedule	Amber	Amber
Scope	Green	Green
Risks	Green	Green
Issues	Green	Green
Resources	Amber	Amber

Executive Update
<ul style="list-style-type: none">The second round of public engagement ended on 7 August 2022.As part of that engagement, the Ministry undertook targeted engagement with people impacted by adoption (including young people), Māori, Samoa, Tonga, Kiribati, and Tuvalu communities in New Zealand.The Ministry met with Judge Moran, Judge Pidwell and Judge Wills on 22 November 2022 to seek their views on some aspects of the policy development.The Ministry met with Judge Pidwell on 23 March 2023 to seek her views on initial thinking on access to court information for Out of scope adoption cases.Amber reflects some staff reallocation to other priority work, and uncertainty of Ministerial priority.
Progress Summary Points
Progress Since Last Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none">N/A
Upcoming Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Advice on a final package will be provided to the Minister in due course.

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June Performance Summary

Name of the Initiative: Adoption Law Reform

Project RAG Status		
	Current Month's Status	Next Month's Forecasted Status
Overall	Amber	Amber
Schedule	Amber	Amber
Scope	Green	Green
Risks	Green	Green
Issues	Green	Green
Resources	Amber	Amber

Executive Update

- We received formal confirmation at the end of May that the Minister of Justice has decided to slow down the adoption law reform work.
- ~~The timeline for decisions is yet to be confirmed and introduction of legislation to Parliament will not be before the General Election.~~
- The policy team are continuing to finalise policy proposals following the second round of engagement in August 2022. Advice on a final package of policy proposals will be provided to the Minister in due course.
- Amber reflects some staff reallocation to other priority work, and confirmation of the project slowing down.

Progress Summary Points

Progress Since Last Report:

- The Minister of Justice confirmed that the adoption law reform work will be slowed down.

Upcoming Activities:

- Advice on a final package of policy proposals will be provided to the Minister in due course.

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July Performance Summary

Name of the Initiative: Adoption Law Reform

Project RAG Status		
	Current Month's Status	Next Month's Forecasted Status
Overall	Amber	Amber
Schedule	Amber	Amber
Scope	Green	Green
Risks	Green	Green
Issues	Green	Green
Resources	Amber	Green

Executive Update
<ul style="list-style-type: none">The timeline for policy decisions on adoption reform is yet to be confirmed. Introduction of legislation to Parliament will not be before the General Election.The policy team are continuing to finalise policy proposals following the second round of engagement in August 2022. Advice on a final package of policy proposals will be provided to the Minister in due course.Amber reflects uncertainty around timing for future milestones.

Progress Summary Points
<p>Progress Since Last Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">We are gradually increasing resource on the project.
<p>Upcoming Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Advice on a final package of policy proposals will be provided to the Minister in due course.

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August Performance Summary

Name of the Initiative: Adoption Law Reform

Project RAG Status		
	Current Month's Status	Next Month's Forecasted Status
Overall	Green	Green
Schedule	Amber	Amber
Scope	Green	Green
Risks	Green	Green
Issues	Green	Green
Resources	Green	Green

Executive Update
<ul style="list-style-type: none">The timeline for policy decisions on adoption reform is yet to be confirmed. Introduction of legislation to Parliament will not be before the General Election.The policy team are continuing to finalise policy proposals following the second round of engagement in August 2022. Advice on a final package of policy proposals will be provided to the Minister in due course.While there is uncertainty around timing for future milestones, the project is progressing well overall.

Progress Summary Points
<p>Progress Since Last Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">We are continuing to finalise our package of policy proposals in preparation for briefing the incoming Minister.
<p>Upcoming Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">We are developing a draft briefing to provide to the incoming Minister on the status of the project.We are continuing to develop a final package of policy proposals.

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September Performance Summary

Name of the Initiative: Adoption Law Reform

Project RAG Status		
	Current Month's Status	Next Month's Forecasted Status
Overall	Green	Green
Schedule	Amber	Amber
Scope	Green	Green
Risks	Green	Green
Issues	Green	Green
Resources	Green	Green

Executive Update
<ul style="list-style-type: none">The timeline for policy decisions on adoption reform is yet to be confirmed. Introduction of legislation to Parliament will not be before the General Election.The policy team are continuing to finalise policy proposals following the second round of engagement in August 2022. Advice on a final package of policy proposals will be provided to the Minister in due course.While there is uncertainty around timing for future milestones, the project is progressing well overall.
Progress Summary Points
Progress Since Last Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none">We are continuing to finalise our package of policy proposals.
Upcoming Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none">We are continuing to develop a final package of policy proposals and will look to brief the incoming Minister after the election.We will engage with the Judiciary on policy proposals that may affect the operation of the Family Court.

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December Performance Summary

Name of the Initiative: Adoption Law Reform

Project RAG Status		
	Current Month's Status	Next Month's Forecasted Status
Overall	Green	Green
Schedule	Amber	Amber
Scope	Green	Green
Risks	Green	Green
Issues	Green	Green
Resources	Green	Green

Executive Update
<ul style="list-style-type: none">The policy team are continuing to finalise policy proposals following the second round of engagement in August 2022. Advice on a final package of policy proposals will be provided to the Minister in due course.While there is uncertainty around timing for future milestones, the project is progressing well overall.
Progress Summary Points
<p>Progress Since Last Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">We are continuing to finalise our package of policy proposals.
<p>Upcoming Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">We are continuing to develop a final package of policy proposals and will look to brief the incoming Minister in due course.We will engage with the Judiciary on policy proposals that may affect the operation of the Family Court.

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January Performance Summary

Name of the Initiative: Adoption Law Reform

Project RAG Status		
	Current Month's Status	Next Month's Forecasted Status
Overall	Green	Green
Schedule	Amber	Amber
Scope	Green	Green
Risks	Green	Green
Issues	Green	Green
Resources	Green	Green

Executive Update
<ul style="list-style-type: none">The policy team are continuing to finalise policy proposals following the second round of engagement in August 2022. Advice on a package of policy proposals will be provided to the Minister in due course.While there is uncertainty around timing for future milestones, the project is progressing well overall.

Progress Summary Points
<p>Progress Since Last Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">We are continuing to finalise our package of policy proposals.
<p>Upcoming Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">We are continuing to develop a package of policy proposals and will look to brief the Minister in due course.We will engage with the Judiciary on policy proposals that may affect the operation of the Family Court.

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February Performance Summary

Name of the Initiative: Adoption Law Reform

Project RAG Status		
	Current Month's Status	Next Month's Forecasted Status
Overall	Green	Green
Schedule	Amber	Amber
Scope	Green	Green
Risks	Green	Green
Issues	Green	Green
Resources	Green	Green

Executive Update

- The policy team are continuing to finalise policy proposals following the second round of engagement in August 2022. Advice on a package of policy proposals will be provided to the Minister in due course.
- While there is uncertainty around timing for future milestones, the project is progressing well overall.

Progress Summary Points

Progress Since Last Report:

- We are continuing to finalise our package of policy proposals.

Upcoming Activities:

- We are continuing to develop a package of policy proposals and will look to brief the Minister in due course.
- We will engage with the Judiciary on policy proposals that may affect the operation of the Family Court.

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March Performance Summary

Name of the Initiative: Adoption Law Reform

Project RAG Status		
	Current Month's Status	Next Month's Forecasted Status
Overall	Amber	Amber
Schedule	Amber	Amber
Scope	Green	Green
Risks	Green	Green
Issues	Green	Green
Resources	Amber	Amber

Executive Update
<ul style="list-style-type: none">This project is being slowed down due to competing work programme priorities.
Progress Summary Points
Progress Since Last Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none">This project is being slowed down due to competing work programme priorities.
Upcoming Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none">s9(2)(f)(iv)We will engage with the Judiciary on policy proposals that may affect the operation of the Family Court.

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April Performance Summary

Name of the Initiative: Adoption Law Reform

Project RAG Status		
	Current Month's Status	Next Month's Forecasted Status
Overall	Amber	Amber
Schedule	Amber	Amber
Scope	Green	Green
Risks	Green	Green
Issues	Green	Green
Resources	Amber	Amber

Executive Update

- This project is on pause due to competing work programme priorities.
- We have provided the Associate Minister of Justice with an initial briefing containing background information and work to date on adoption law reform.

Progress Summary Points

Progress Since Last Report:

- This project is paused due to competing work programme priorities.

Upcoming Activities:

- We anticipate that work will resume on this project s9(2)(f)(iv)
- We will engage with the Judiciary on policy proposals that may affect the operation of the Family Court.

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May Performance Summary

Name of the Initiative: Adoption Law Reform

Project RAG Status		
	Current Month's Status	Next Month's Forecasted Status
Overall	Amber	Amber
Schedule	Amber	Amber
Scope	Green	Green
Risks	Green	Green
Issues	Green	Green
Resources	Amber	Amber

Executive Update

- This project is on pause due to competing work programme priorities.
- We have provided the Associate Minister of Justice with an initial briefing containing background information and work to date on adoption law reform.

Progress Summary Points

Progress Since Last Report:

- N/A

Upcoming Activities:

- The timing for work to resume on this project is dependent on Ministerial priorities.
- We will engage with the Judiciary on policy proposals that may affect the operation of the Family Court.

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June Performance Summary

Name of the Initiative: Adoption Law Reform

Project RAG Status		
	Current Month's Status	Next Month's Forecasted Status
Overall	Amber	Amber
Schedule	Amber	Amber
Scope	Green	Green
Risks	Green	Green
Issues	Green	Green
Resources	Amber	Amber

Executive Update
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• This project is on pause due to competing work programme priorities.• We have provided the Associate Minister of Justice with an initial briefing containing background information and work to date on adoption law reform.

Progress Summary Points
Progress Since Last Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• N/A
Upcoming Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The timing for work to resume on this project is dependent on Ministerial priorities.• We will engage with the Judiciary on policy proposals that may affect the operation of the Family Court.

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July Performance Summary

Name of the Initiative: Adoption Law Reform

Project RAG Status		
	Current Month's Status	Next Month's Forecasted Status
Overall	Amber	Amber
Schedule	Amber	Amber
Scope	Green	Green
Risks	Green	Green
Issues	Green	Green
Resources	Amber	Amber

Executive Update

- This project is on pause due to competing work programme priorities.
- We have provided the Associate Minister of Justice with an initial briefing containing background information and work to date on adoption law reform.

Progress Summary Points

Progress Since Last Report:

- N/A

Upcoming Activities:

- The timing for work to resume on this project is dependent on Ministerial priorities.
- We will engage with the Judiciary on policy proposals that may affect the operation of the Family Court.

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