

## Excerpts from the report “Family Court Programme Report,” 17 April 2023

### Adoption

- The Ministry met with Judge Pidwell on 23 March 2023 to seek her views on initial thinking on access to court information and adoption cases. Out of scope
- Officials have been progressing work on refining a final package of proposals.
- Amber reflects some staff reallocation to other priority work, and uncertainty of Ministerial priority.

Initiative	Milestone	Jun-22 Baseline	Feb-23	Apr-23 RAG	Comments
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Out of scope

legislative reforms/Response to Law Commission reports - Adoption	Cabinet paper and RIA	24/12/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Public engagement	8/08/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Engagement outcomes	3/10/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Advice to Minister	s9(2)(f)(iv)				Minister is considering next steps and priority
	Budget bid					Minister is considering next steps and priority
	LEG					Minister is considering next steps and priority

## Excerpts from the report “Family Court Programme Report,” 16 May 2023

### Adoption

- Amber reflects some staff reallocation to other priority work, and uncertainty of Ministerial priority.
- Advice on a final package will be provided to the Minister in due course

Initiative	Milestone	Jun-22 Baseline	Apr-23 May-23	RAG	Comments
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Out of scope

legislative reforms/Response to Law Commission reports - Adoption	Cabinet paper and RIA	24/12/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Public engagement	8/08/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Engagement outcomes	3/10/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Advice to Minister	s9(2)(f)(iv)				Minister is considering next steps and priority
	Budget bid					Minister is considering next steps and priority
	LEG					Minister is considering next steps and priority

## Excerpts from the report “Family Court Programme Report,” 20 June 2023

### Adoption

- Amber reflects some staff reallocation to other priority work, and confirmation of the project slowing down.
- 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.

Initiative	Milestone	Jun-22 Baseline	May-23 Jun-23	RAG	Comments
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Out of scope

legislative reforms/Response to Law Commission reports - Adoption	Cabinet paper and RIA	24/12/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Public engagement	8/08/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Engagement outcomes	3/10/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Advice to Minister	s9(2)(f)(iv)				Minister is considering next steps and priority
	Budget bid					Minister is considering next steps and priority
	LEG					Minister is considering next steps and priority

RELEASED

## Excerpt from the file note “Family Justice Working Group Minutes,” 4 July 2023

### Adoption

Technically paused. Some work on finalising policy proposals. s9(2)(g)(i)  
s9(2)(g)(i) but technically paused for now.

## Excerpts from the report “Family Court Programme Report,” 20 July 2023

### Adoption

- Formal confirmation has been received 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 2023. 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

Initiative	Milestone	Jun-22 Baseline	Jun-23	Jul-23	RAG	Comments
Out of scope						
legislative reforms/response to Law Commission reports - Adoption	Cabinet paper and RIA	28/12/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Public engagement	8/08/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Engagement outcomes	3/10/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Advice to Minister		s9(2)(f)(iv)			Minister is considering next steps and priority
	Budget bid					Minister is considering next steps and priority
	LEG					Minister is considering next steps and priority

## Excerpt from the file note “Family Justice Working Group Minutes,” 1 August 2023

### Adoption

No further updates, now have a lead in the team so are hoping to pick that work again. s9(2)(g)(i)

## Excerpts from the report “Family Court Programme Report,” 22 August 2023

### Adoption

- 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.
- We are gradually increasing resource on the project.

Initiative	Milestone	Jul-22 Baseline	Jul-23	Aug-23	RAG	Comments
Out of scope						
legislative reforms/response to Law Commission reports - Adoption	Cabinet paper and RIA	28/12/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Public engagement	8/08/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Engagement outcomes	3/10/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Advice to Minister		s9(2)(f)(iv)			Minister has confirmed project is currently slowed down.
	Budget bid					Minister has confirmed project is slowed down.
	LEG					Minister has confirmed project is slowed down.

## Excerpts from the report “Family Court Programme Report,” 19 September 2023

▪ **Adoption**

- 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.

Upcoming activities

- 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.

Initiative	Milestone	Jun-22 Baseline	Aug-23	Sep-23	RAG	Comments
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Out of scope

legislative reforms/Response to Law Commission reports - Adoption	Cabinet paper and RIA	24/12/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Public engagement	8/08/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Engagement outcomes	1/10/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Advice to Minister					Minister has confirmed project is currently slowed down
	Budget bid					Minister has confirmed project is slowed down
LEG					Minister has confirmed project is slowed down	

s9(2)(f)(iv)

**Excerpts from the report “Family Court Programme Report,” 17 October 2023**

▪ **Adoption**

- We are continuing to finalise our package of policy proposals.
- While there is uncertainty around timing for future milestones, the project is progressing well overall.

Upcoming activities

- 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.

Initiative	Milestone	Jun-22 Baseline	Sep-23	Oct-23	RAG	Comments
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Out of scope

legislative reforms/Response to Law Commission reports - Adoption	Cabinet paper and RIA	24/12/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Public engagement	8/08/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Engagement outcomes	1/10/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Advice to Minister					Minister has confirmed project is currently slowed down
	Budget bid					Minister has confirmed project is slowed down
LEG					Minister has confirmed project is slowed down	

s9(2)(f)(iv)

**Excerpt from the file note “Family Justice Working Group Minutes,” 24 October 2023**

Awaiting ministerial decisions on **Out of scope** Adoption, **Out of scope**  
**Out of scope**

**Excerpts from the report “Family Court Programme Report,” 12 December 2023**

▪ **Adoption**

Executive update

- 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.

Upcoming activities

- 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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Initiative	Milestone	Jun-22 baseline	Nov-23	Dec-23	ISAG	Comments
legislative reforms/Response to Law Commission reports - Adoption	Cabinet paper and RIA	24/12/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Public engagement	8/08/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Engagement outcomes	3/10/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Advice to Minister					
	Budget bid					

Out of scope

### Excerpt from the report “Family Court Programme Report,” 19 January 2024

#### Adoption

##### 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 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.

Initiative	Milestone	Jun-22 baseline	Dec-23	Jan-24	RAG	Comments
legislative reforms/Response to Law Commission reports - Adoption	Cabinet paper and RIA	24/12/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Public engagement	8/08/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Engagement outcomes	3/10/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Advice to Minister					
	Budget bid					

Out of scope

### Excerpt from the report “Family Court Programme Report,” 20 February 2024

#### Adoption

##### 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 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.

Initiative	Milestone	Jun-22 baseline	Jan-24	Feb-24	RAG	Comments
legislative reforms/Response to Law Commission reports - Adoption	Cabinet paper and RIA	24/12/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Public engagement	8/08/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Engagement outcomes	3/10/2022	Complete	Complete		
	Advice to Minister					
	Budget bid					

Out of scope

### Excerpt from the file note “Family Justice Working Group Minutes,” 3 April 2024.

- Briefing was provided to the Associate Minister of Justice Nicole McKee on adoption law reform, but that work is currently paused due to competing work programme priorities. s9(2)(f)(iv)