

Government Response to the Moore Inquiry — Progress Summary

Public Inquiry into the Disappearance of the Phillips Children | Progress as at 5 October 2026



Completed	Due by end of 2026	Due throughout 2027 (work is already underway on four actions)
- Action 1 — Police operational guidance amended (15 Sep) Lead: Police - Action 3 — Refreshed Child Protection Protocol finalised (14 Sep) Lead: Police, Oranga Tamariki, Health NZ - Action 4 — Missing Persons policy amended (15 Sep) Lead: Police - Action 20 — Letter of Expectations to incoming Chief Executive (18 Sep) Lead: Justice Ongoing follow-up — secondary actions - Action 3.1 — Multi-agency Child Protection Protocol familiarisation sessions completed (31 Dec 2026) Lead: Police, Oranga Tamariki, Health NZ - Action 3.2 — Joint Protocol training developed, first modules from early 2027 Lead: Police, Oranga Tamariki, Health NZ - Action 3.3 — Protocol training rollout begins, first modules delivered (early 2027) Lead: Police, Oranga Tamariki, Health NZ - Action 3.4 — Protocol training rollout concludes, all staff trained (31 Dec 2027) Lead: Police, Oranga Tamariki, Health NZ - Action 20.1 — Arms Officer and Vetter guidance updated (Sep–Oct 2026) Lead: Firearms Safety	- Action 5 — s 132 Family Court report-writing guidance finalised (31 Oct) Lead: Oranga Tamariki - Action 8 — Alienation and coercive control built into mandatory training (31 Oct) Lead: Oranga Tamariki, Education - Action 7 — Information-flow options raised with Principal Family Court Judge (30 Nov) Lead: Oranga Tamariki - Action 2 — Reports of Concern practice strengthened (31 Dec) Lead: Police - Action 6 — Family Court report-writing training package (31 Dec) Lead: Oranga Tamariki - Action 9 — Guidance clarifies exclusion and alienation as harm (31 Dec) Lead: Oranga Tamariki - Action 18 — Police–NZDF memorandum of understanding amended (31 Dec) Lead: NZDF - Action 19 — Independent review of s 9 Defence Act commissioned (31 Dec) Lead: NZDF Ongoing follow-up — secondary actions - Action 19.1 — Independent review of s 9 Defence Act delivered (1 May 2027) Lead: NZDF	- Action 14 — Centralised home-education application process (Jan 2027) Lead: Education (<i>work underway</i>) - Action 16 — Consent sought from both parents or guardians (Jan 2027) Lead: Education (<i>work underway</i>) - Action 11 — Practice, guidance and training reviewed (Q1 2027) Lead: Oranga Tamariki - Action 12 — Referral pathways reinforced in training (Q1 2027) Lead: Oranga Tamariki - Action 10 — Legislative options for ss 14–14AA (28 Feb 2027) Lead: Oranga Tamariki - Action 13 — Oranga Tamariki – Justice joint protocol review (31 Mar 2027) Lead: Oranga Tamariki - Action 15 — Homeschooling policy review considers Inquiry findings (2027, date TBC) Lead: Education (<i>work underway</i>) - Action 17 — Consider legislative change for all-parent consent (2027, date TBC) Lead: Education (<i>work underway</i>)

Primary actions are the 20 specific commitments agencies have made in response to the Inquiry, each with a completion date. Secondary actions are the ongoing follow-up activity that supports them — such as delivering training and checking how new guidance is working in practice.

Actions due by end of 2026

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Action 5 Due 31 October 2026

Clearer reports to the Family Court

Oranga Tamariki will develop new guidance for staff writing section 132 reports to make it clear that they can and should go beyond what the Family Court has asked to ensure it is fully briefed on all matters relevant to child safety and wellbeing, and to consider for exclusion and alienation behaviours particularly in conjunction with coercive or controlling behaviours.

Progress: guidance is being finalised and will be introduced to staff through online sessions, with clear expectations for supervision and oversight.

Lead: Oranga Tamariki

Action 8 Due 31 October 2026

Alienation and coercive control in training

Mandatory child protection training for frontline staff will include awareness of parental alienation and coercive control.

Progress: Oranga Tamariki has supplied the content on alienation and coercive control for the foundational training module.

Lead: Oranga Tamariki, with the Ministry of Education

Action 7 Due 30 November 2026

Better information flow with the Family Court

Oranga Tamariki will raise with the Principal Family Court Judge practical ways to improve how information moves between the agency and the Family Court.

Progress: to be taken forward with the Family Court in the second half of 2026.

Lead: Oranga Tamariki

Action 2 Due 31 December 2026

Stronger Police Reports of Concern

Police and Oranga Tamariki will strengthen practice so that Reports of Concern clearly set out what Police are worried about, the circumstances behind it, and their assessment of the risk to the child, and that Police will continuously share material new information while concerns, investigations or other Police involvement with a child remains live.

Progress: This will be aligned with the development and rollout of training on the refreshed Child Protection Protocol.

Lead: Police, with Oranga Tamariki

Action 6 Due 31 December 2026

Training for Family Court report writers

Once the new Family Court report writing guidance is final, a training package will be developed and rolled out, alongside closer supervision and stronger quality assurance of the report-writing workforce.

Progress: The training package is in development, with further work required to understand practice expectations and skill gaps that need to be addressed.

Lead: Oranga Tamariki

Action 9 Due 31 December 2026

Guidance clarifies exclusion and alienation as harm

Oranga Tamariki guidance will be updated to clarify that parental and sibling exclusion and alienation can be considered to constitute harm to a child.

Progress: On track to begin in October 2026.

Lead: Oranga Tamariki

Action 18 Due 31 December 2026

Police and NZDF MOU updated

The Memorandum of Understanding will be amended to clarify that where possible:

- Interagency planning should take place ahead of a request for support,
- Police should conduct internal consultation with personnel familiar with NZDF capabilities ahead of engagement with the NZDF.

Progress: A review of the MOU is underway and a new section reflecting the Inquiry's recommendations is being drafted.

Lead: NZDF, with Police and the Ministry of Defence

Action 19 Due 31 December 2026

Independent review of the Defence Act

An independent review will be commissioned of section 9 of the Defence Act 1990.

Progress: Two external barristers have been identified and are available to conduct an independent review; terms of reference are being drafted. The final report is due 1 May 2027 (Action 19.1).

Lead: NZDF, with the Ministry of Defence

Supporting follow-up work also due by the end of 2026 (secondary actions)

Action 3.1 — Multi-agency sessions to familiarise staff with the refreshed Child Protection Protocol, due 31 December 2026 (Police, Oranga Tamariki, Health NZ). Action 20.1 — Updated guidance for Arms Officers and Vettors following the new Arms Act 2026, due September–October 2026 (Firearms Safety and Education NZ).