

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children

Key Title:	Principal Advisor – Safety of Children in Care
Group:	Safety of Children in Care Unit
Reports to:	Director, Safety of Children in Care Unit
Location:	Wellington
Direct Reports:	No
Budget:	No

OUR ORGANISATION

About us

Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children is a Ministry dedicated to supporting any child in New Zealand whose wellbeing is at significant risk of harm now, or in the future. We also work with young people who may have offended or are likely to offend. Our belief is that in the right environment, with the right people surrounding and nurturing them, any child can, and should flourish.

Our vision

Our vision is: New Zealand values the wellbeing of tamariki above all else.

Our purpose

Our purpose is: To ensure that all tamariki are in loving whānau and communities where oranga tamariki can be realised.

The Oranga Tamariki way

We've introduced a new way of doing things. A way of looking at the world that guides everything we do:



Our core outcomes

Our core outcomes are:

- All children and young people are in loving families and communities where they can be safe, strong, connected, and able to flourish
- Improved outcomes for all children, especially tamariki and rangatahi Māori.

POSITION PURPOSE

Keeping children safe in care is a priority for Oranga Tamariki.

The Safety of Children in Care Unit leads all aspects of research and advice to the Minister and the Oranga Tamariki leadership team on the safety of children in care.

The Principal Advisor will support all of the work the Safety of Children in Care Unit undertakes. This includes supporting Oranga Tamariki’s response to the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Historic Abuse of Children in State Care and Faith-Based institutions. This will enable us to make timely and considered responses to information requests from the Royal Commission on approaches to measuring, reporting and understanding abuse of children in care.

The role also has a key focus on national leadership and direction on situations where a person who was previously known to and/or in statutory care or guardianship alleges historical abuse or neglect which may raise a safety concern for tamariki who are currently in care.

KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES

Key Result area	Key Accountabilities
Advisory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support the Director in leading the provision of advice to the Chief Executive and leadership team on the trends, patterns and risks that emerge through this work. - Support the media team with evidence relating to queries on the harm of children in care. - Recommend effective strategies to respond to key risk areas.
Strategic advice and best practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that insights from analysis and research into safety in care are translated into policy and practice. - Create mechanisms to both input into and learn from any insights from the Royal Commission as they happen. - Contribute to and actively promote the organisation’s purpose and strategy, actively seeking out opportunities to influence and shape the content of strategy.
Relationship Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain an effective relationship with key stakeholders across the organisation and across a number of government agencies re the Royal Commission. - Act responsively to requests for information and work collaboratively with all relevant parties, both internal and external.
Being part of the Oranga Tamariki team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Actively and positively participate as a member of the team - Proactively look for opportunities to improve the operations of Oranga Tamariki. - Demonstrate a commitment to and respect for the Treaty of Waitangi and incorporate these into your work.

Key Result area	Key Accountabilities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Comply with and support all health and safety policies, guidelines and initiatives.- Ensure all incidents, injuries and near misses are reported into our H&S reporting tool.- Comply with all legislative and regulatory requirements, and report any breaches as soon as they become known- Adhere to all Oranga Tamariki procedures, policies, guidelines, and standards of integrity and conduct- From time to time, you may be required to perform other reasonable duties as requested by your manager

KEY RELATIONSHIPS

Internal

- Director, Safety of Children in Care
- Deputy Chief Executives
- General Managers and their teams
- Safety of Children in Care Unit
- Oranga Tamariki staff

External

- Ministry of Social Development
- Police
- Crown Law
- Key respondent agencies to the Royal Commission
- Ministerial office

QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE

Qualifications

- A tertiary qualification or equivalent relevant experience is essential.

Experience

- Knowledge and/or experience of contemporary issues in social services delivery.
- Have a good understanding of professional social work practices and knowledge of operational policy.
- Experience in conducting reviews and investigations.
- Understanding the complexities of harm experienced by children in care.
- Actively applies knowledge of te reo Māori, tikanga and builds knowledge of te Ao Māori.

Attributes/Success

Factors

- Excellent verbal, written and interpersonal communication skills.
 - Strong child centred perspective and an enduring focus on improving outcomes for New Zealand's most vulnerable children
 - Excellent analytical and problem-solving skills
 - Organisational wide level thinking.
 - Understanding and appreciation of cross-cultural issues and concerns, in particular, knowledge of tikanga Māori, and Pacific peoples' culture.
 - Ability to communicate complex ideas to a variety of audiences and build and maintain rapport with others.
 - Sound judgement and commitment to achievement
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