

Vote Oranga Tamariki

APPROPRIATION MINISTER(S): Minister for Children (M93)

DEPARTMENT ADMINISTERING THE VOTE: Oranga Tamariki - Ministry for Children (A32)

RESPONSIBLE MINISTER FOR ORANGA TAMARIKI - MINISTRY FOR CHILDREN: Minister for Children

Overview of the Vote

The Minister for Children is responsible for the appropriations in this Vote for the 2026/27 financial year covering the following:

- a total of almost \$1,640 million for investing in children and young people including:
 - statutory intervention and transition (over \$1,136 million) to provide statutory care and youth justice services, and services to transition children and young people from statutory intervention
 - prevention and early support (over \$480 million) which provides prevention, awareness and early support programmes and services to identify and support children, young people and their families at risk of poor life outcomes
 - intensive response (over \$13 million) to provide intensive response services for children and young people exhibiting needs which place them at risk of harm and/or requiring a statutory intervention, and
 - policy advice and ministerial services (nearly \$10 million) to provide policy advice and other support to the Ministers in discharging their policy decision-making and other portfolio responsibilities
- a total of almost \$6 million for Redress for Abuse in Care MCA including:
 - delivering redress for abuse in care (nearly \$4 million) for responding to, designing, implementing and delivering redress for abuse in care
 - Support Services (\$456,000) to provide support services to people who lodge a claim for experiencing abuse in state care, and
 - Redress Payments (almost \$2 million) to provide financial redress to people who have experienced abuse in care
- a total of nearly \$41 million for capital expenditure for the replacement or upgrade of assets in support of the delivery of the Ministry's services
- a total of almost \$11 million for adoption services which helps achieve the legal adoption of children by approved parents and to provide access to information on adoptions
- a total of \$4 million for Connection and Advocacy Service to reduce isolation for children and young people in care by connecting them with each other, promoting their individual and collective voice and building their leadership, and
- a total of \$485,000 for a Ministerial Advisory Board to provide independent advice and assurance to the Minister for Children on Oranga Tamariki.

The Minister for Children is also responsible for a capital injection of \$4 million to Oranga Tamariki.

Details of these appropriations are set out in Parts 2-4.

Details of Appropriations and Capital Injections

Annual Appropriations and Forecast Permanent Appropriations

Titles and Scopes of Appropriations by Appropriation Type	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Departmental Output Expenses			
Adoption Services (M93) (A32) This appropriation is limited to the management of services, incorporating education, assessment, reporting, counselling, and mediation, to all people who are party to adoption-related matters, past or present.	10,732	10,732	10,967
Total Departmental Output Expenses	10,732	10,732	10,967
Departmental Other Expenses			
Loss on disposal of Crown-owned assets for Stafford litigation settlement (M93) (A32) This appropriation is limited to the loss on disposal of assets that are part of the Stafford v Attorney-General litigation settlement.	1,042	1,042	-
Total Departmental Other Expenses	1,042	1,042	-
Departmental Capital Expenditure			
Oranga Tamariki-Ministry for Children - Capital Expenditure PLA (M93) (A32) This appropriation is limited to the purchase or development of assets by and for the use of Oranga Tamariki-Ministry for Children; as authorised by section 24(1) of the Public Finance Act 1989.	55,196	55,196	40,800
Total Departmental Capital Expenditure	55,196	55,196	40,800
Non-Departmental Output Expenses			
Connection and Advocacy Service (M93) (A32) This appropriation is limited to supporting an independent connection and advocacy service for children and young people in statutory care.	4,000	4,000	4,000
Independent Advice on Oranga Tamariki (M93) (A32) This appropriation is limited to independent advice and assurance to the Minister for Children.	1,124	1,124	485
Total Non-Departmental Output Expenses	5,124	5,124	4,485
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure			
Investing in Children and Young People MCA (M93) (A32) The single overarching purpose of this appropriation is to ensure New Zealand's vulnerable children and young people have positive outcomes.	1,557,619	1,547,808	1,639,999
Departmental Output Expenses			
<i>Intensive Response</i> This category is limited to intensive response services for children and young people exhibiting needs which place them at risk of harm and/or requiring a statutory intervention.	13,450	13,320	13,351
<i>Policy Advice and Ministerial Services</i> This category is limited to providing policy advice and other support to the Ministers in discharging their policy decision-making and other portfolio responsibilities.	9,973	9,973	9,766
<i>Prevention and Early Support</i> This category is limited to providing prevention, awareness and early support programmes and services to identify and support children, young people and their families at risk of poor life outcomes.	465,567	461,267	480,442

Titles and Scopes of Appropriations by Appropriation Type	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
<i>Statutory Intervention and Transition</i> This category is limited to providing statutory care and youth justice services, and services to transition children and young people from statutory intervention.	1,068,629	1,063,248	1,136,440
Redress for Abuse in Care MCA (M93) (A32) The single overarching purpose of this appropriation is to enable the Government's response to redress recommendations made by the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care.	4,066	2,978	5,938
Departmental Output Expenses			
<i>Delivering redress for abuse in care</i> This category is limited to responding to, designing, implementing and delivering redress for abuse in care.	1,768	1,768	3,934
Non-Departmental Output Expenses			
<i>Support Services</i> This category is limited to providing third party support services to people who report experiencing abuse in care.	405	217	456
Non-Departmental Other Expenses			
<i>Redress Payments</i> This category is limited to providing financial redress to people who experienced abuse in care.	1,893	993	1,548
Total Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure	1,561,685	1,550,786	1,645,937
Total Annual Appropriations and Forecast Permanent Appropriations	1,633,779	1,622,880	1,702,189

Capital Injection Authorisations

	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Oranga Tamariki - Ministry for Children - Capital Injection (M93) (A32)	30,396	30,396	4,000

Supporting Information

Part 1 - Vote as a Whole

1.1 - New Policy Initiatives

Policy Initiative	Appropriation	2025/26 Final Budgeted \$000	2026/27 Budget \$000	2027/28 Estimated \$000	2028/29 Estimated \$000	2029/30 Estimated \$000
Specialist Care Responses - Meeting the Needs of Increasing Numbers of Children with Complex Needs	Investing in Children and Young People (MCA)					
	Statutory Intervention and Transition Department Output Expense	-	20,475	24,320	23,745	24,983
	Oranga Tamariki-Ministry for Children - Departmental Capital Injection		500	100	100	100
Reports of Concern - Meeting Service Demand and Improving Service Efficiency	Investing in Children and Young People (MCA)					
	Prevention and Early Support Department Output Expense	-	2,755	2,001	425	425
	Statutory Intervention and Transition Department Output Expense	-	17,028	23,834	22,024	22,024
Dame Karen Poutasi Response - Strengthening the Safety Nets to Identify and Respond to Children at Risk of Harm	Investing in Children and Young People (MCA)					
	Prevention and Early Support Department Output Expense	-	518	782	-	-
	Statutory Intervention and Transition Department Output Expense	-	8,658	17,722	-	-
Stafford v Attorney-General Litigation Resolution Agreement - Implications for Oranga Tamariki	Investing in Children and Young People (MCA)					
	Statutory Intervention and Transition Department Output Expense	140	200	300	200	200
Total Initiatives		140	50,134	69,059	46,494	47,732

1.2 - Trends in the Vote

Summary of Financial Activity

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26		2026/27			2027/28	2028/29	2029/30
	Actual \$000	Actual \$000	Actual \$000	Actual \$000	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Departmental Transactions Budget \$000	Non- Departmental Transactions Budget \$000	Total Budget \$000	Estimated \$000	Estimated \$000	Estimated \$000
Appropriations												
Output Expenses	27,121	50,454	32,838	24,937	15,856	15,856	10,967	4,485	15,452	14,561	14,388	14,388
Benefits or Related Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	-	-	-	-	-
Borrowing Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Expenses	-	-	-	-	1,042	1,042	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Expenditure	13,314	30,648	25,280	9,776	55,196	55,196	40,800	-	40,800	24,800	24,800	24,800
Intelligence and Security Department Expenses and Capital Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	-	-	-	-
Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure (MCA)												
<i>Output Expenses</i>	1,389,720	1,394,404	1,538,882	1,428,603	1,559,792	1,549,793	1,643,933	456	1,644,389	1,613,967	1,577,299	1,578,449
<i>Other Expenses</i>	-	-	-	-	1,893	993	-	1,548	1,548	1,500	1,500	1,500
<i>Capital Expenditure</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	-	-	-	-	-
Total Appropriations	1,430,155	1,475,506	1,597,000	1,463,316	1,633,779	1,622,880	1,695,700	6,489	1,702,189	1,654,828	1,617,987	1,619,137
Crown Revenue and Capital Receipts												
Tax Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Tax Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Receipts	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	-	-	-	-	-
Total Crown Revenue and Capital Receipts	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A	-	-	-	-	-

Note - where restructuring of the vote has occurred then, to the extent practicable, prior years information has been restated as if the restructuring had occurred before the beginning of the period covered. In this instance Total Appropriations for the Budgeted and Estimated Actual year may not equal Total Annual Appropriations and Forecast Permanent Appropriations and Multi-Year Appropriations in the Details of Appropriations and Capital Injections.

Adjustments to the Summary of Financial Activity Table Due to Vote Restructuring

There have been no restructuring adjustments to prior year information in the Summary of Financial Activity table.

1.3 - Analysis of Significant Trends

Overview of Vote Trends

Total actual appropriated expenditure for Vote Oranga Tamariki has increased since 2021/22 by \$33.161 million to \$1,463.316 million in 2024/25. Actual appropriated expenditure is estimated to grow by \$159.557 million in 2025/26 to \$1,622.873 million and forecast to grow by a further \$79.316 million in 2026/27 to \$1,702.189 million, before reducing to \$1,619.137 million in 2029/30.

Output Expenses

Output expenses decrease from \$24.937 million in 2024/25 to \$15.856 million in 2025/26, primarily reflecting the transfer of responsibility for the Crown response to the Abuse in Care Royal Commission of Inquiry to the Public Services Commission.

Capital Expenditure

Capital expenditure increases from \$9.776 million in 2024/25 to an estimated \$55.196 million in 2025/26, alongside an increase in capital injections from \$1 million in 2024/25 to \$30.396 million in 2025/26. This is mainly driven by new Budget 2025 initiatives, including:

- Safety Improvements in Youth Justice Residences
- Military Style Academies
- Infrastructure Remediation for Residences, and
- Increasing the Capacity of Secure Residences - Re Opening of Te Oranga Residence.

Capital expenditure is forecast to return to a baseline of approximately \$24.800 million per annum from 2027/28.

Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure (MCA) - Investing in Children and Young People

The Investing in Children and Young People MCA increases by \$250.279 million from \$1,389.720 million in 2021/22 to an estimated budgeted \$1,639.999 million in 2026/27.

The increase reflects a combination of cost pressures and new investment, including:

- time-limited funding for strengthening the safety nets to identify and respond to children at risk of harm through the implementation of recommendations from the Dame Karen Poutasi Response
- cost pressure funding for changes to Oranga Tamariki social service contracting and meeting the service demands of increased reports of concern
- meeting the needs increasing numbers of children with complex needs
- investment in the Frontline Technology Systems Upgrade

- remuneration-related cost pressures and pay equity, and
- new initiatives including Making the Care System Safe, Safety Improvements in Youth Justice Residences, and Military Style Academies and the operationalisation of Te Oranga.

These increases are partially offset by the cessation of time-limited funding for social service contracts and a decrease in funding as part of the 2024/25 Oranga Tamariki baseline savings exercise.

Expenditure is forecast to reduce to \$1,573.680 million in 2029/30 mainly due:

- conclusion of time-limited funding for the implementation of recommendations from the Dame Karen Poutasi Response
- conclusion of Frontline Technology Systems Upgrade project funding, and
- one-off funding transfers from prior years.

Part 2 - Details of Departmental Appropriations

2.1 - Departmental Output Expenses

Adoption Services (M93) (A32)

Scope of Appropriation

This appropriation is limited to the management of services, incorporating education, assessment, reporting, counselling, and mediation, to all people who are party to adoption-related matters, past or present.

Expenses and Revenue

	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Total Appropriation	10,732	10,732	10,967
Revenue from the Crown	10,732	10,732	10,967
Revenue from Others	-	-	-

What is Intended to be Achieved with this Appropriation

This appropriation is intended to achieve the legal adoption of children by approved parents and to provide access to information on adoptions.

How Performance will be Assessed and End of Year Reporting Requirements

	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted Standard	Estimated Actual	Budget Standard
Assessment of Performance			
The percentage of assessments of suitability to adopt that are completed within 3 months will be at least:	90%	90%	90%

End of Year Performance Reporting

Performance information for this appropriation will be reported in the Oranga Tamariki - Ministry for Children's Annual Report.

Current and Past Policy Initiatives

Policy Initiative	Year of First Impact	2025/26 Final Budgeted \$000	2026/27 Budget \$000	2027/28 Estimated \$000	2028/29 Estimated \$000	2029/30 Estimated \$000
Current Government						
Frontline Technology Systems Upgrade (FTSU) - to improve outcomes for children and Family	2025/26	510	579	145	126	126
Remuneration Cost Pressures for Frontline Staff	2024/25	272	272	272	272	272
Reduction in Back Office Administration Costs - Oranga Tamariki	2024/25	(197)	(197)	(197)	(197)	(197)
Reduction in Back Office Functions - Oranga Tamariki	2024/25	(594)	(594)	(594)	(594)	(594)
Previous Government						
Oranga Tamariki Remuneration Cost Pressures Tagged Contingencies Budget 23 PSPA Contingency Drawdown	2023/24	55	55	55	55	55
Oranga Tamariki Remuneration Cost Pressures	2022/23	825	825	825	825	825
Public Sector Pay Adjustment - Vote Oranga Tamariki Remuneration Cost Pressure	2022/23	432	432	432	432	432

2.3 - Departmental Capital Expenditure and Capital Injections

Oranga Tamariki-Ministry for Children - Capital Expenditure PLA (M93) (A32)

Scope of Appropriation

This appropriation is limited to the purchase or development of assets by and for the use of Oranga Tamariki-Ministry for Children; as authorised by section 24(1) of the Public Finance Act 1989.

Capital Expenditure

	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Forests/Agricultural	-	-	-
Land	-	-	-
Property, Plant and Equipment	55,196	55,196	40,800
Intangibles	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-
Total Appropriation	55,196	55,196	40,800

What is Intended to be Achieved with this Appropriation

This appropriation is intended to achieve the replacement or upgrade of assets in support of the delivery of the Ministry's services.

How Performance will be Assessed and End of Year Reporting Requirements

	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted Standard	Estimated Actual	Budget Standard
Assessment of Performance			
Expenditure is in accordance with the Ministry's approved capital plan	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved

End of Year Performance Reporting

Performance information for this appropriation will be reported in the Oranga Tamariki - Ministry for Children's Annual Report.

Reasons for Change in Appropriation

The decrease in this appropriation for 2026/27 is mainly due to the completion of planned capital expenditure of Budget funded capital projects.

This is partially offset by:

- an increase of \$3 million of funding for the Infrastructure Remediation for Residences initiative to bring residences up to a standard that is fit for purpose

- an increase of \$500,000 of funding for the Secure Residences - Re-opening of Te Oranga Residence initiative to reopen the Te Oranga residence for children's care in Christchurch, and
- an increase of \$500,000 in funding for Specialist Care Responses - Meeting the Needs of Increasing Numbers of Children with Complex Needs.

Capital Injections and Movements in Departmental Net Assets

Oranga Tamariki - Ministry for Children

Details of Net Asset Schedule	2025/26 Estimated Actual \$000	2026/27 Projected \$000	Explanation of Projected Movements in 2026/27
Opening Balance	489,263	518,617	
Capital Injections	30,396	4,000	This is made up of \$3 million for Infrastructure Remediation for Residences, \$500,000 of funding for the Secure Residences - Re-opening of Te Oranga Residence, and \$500,000 in funding for Specialist Care Responses - Meeting the Needs of Increasing Numbers of Children with Complex Needs.
Capital Withdrawals	-	-	
Surplus to be Retained (Deficit Incurred)	(1,042)	-	
Other Movements	-	-	
Closing Balance	518,617	522,617	

Part 3 - Details of Non-Departmental Appropriations

3.1 - Non-Departmental Output Expenses

Connection and Advocacy Service (M93) (A32)

Scope of Appropriation

This appropriation is limited to supporting an independent connection and advocacy service for children and young people in statutory care.

Expenses

	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Total Appropriation	4,000	4,000	4,000

What is Intended to be Achieved with this Appropriation

This appropriation is intended to achieve reduced isolation for children and young people in care by connecting them with each other, promoting their individual and collective voice and building their leadership.

How Performance will be Assessed and End of Year Reporting Requirements

	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted Standard	Estimated Actual	Budget Standard
Assessment of Performance			
Expenditure supports the delivery of services to children and young people with care experience and progress on contracting measurables is reported quarterly to Oranga Tamariki	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved

End of Year Performance Reporting

Performance information for this appropriation will be reported by the Minister for Children in the Vote Oranga Tamariki Non-Departmental Appropriations Report.

Service Providers

The funding is paid to VOYCE - Whakarongo Mai, an independent advocacy and connection service for children and young people with experience of statutory care.

Independent Advice on Oranga Tamariki (M93) (A32)

Scope of Appropriation

This appropriation is limited to independent advice and assurance to the Minister for Children.

Expenses

	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Total Appropriation	1,124	1,124	485

What is Intended to be Achieved with this Appropriation

This appropriation is intended to provide quality and timely independent advice and assurance to the Minister for Children on the performance of Oranga Tamariki.

End of Year Performance Reporting

An exemption was granted under s15D(2)(b)(iii) of the Public Finance Act as the average amount of this appropriation for non-departmental other expense is less than \$5 million.

Reasons for Change in Appropriation

The decrease in this appropriation for 2026/27 is due to the term of the Ministerial Advisory Board ending on 30 September 2026.

Part 4 - Details of Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure

4 - Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure

Investing in Children and Young People (M93) (A32)

Overarching Purpose Statement

The single overarching purpose of this appropriation is to ensure New Zealand's vulnerable children and young people have positive outcomes.

Scope of Appropriation

Departmental Output Expenses

Intensive Response

This category is limited to intensive response services for children and young people exhibiting needs which place them at risk of harm and/or requiring a statutory intervention.

Policy Advice and Ministerial Services

This category is limited to providing policy advice and other support to the Ministers in discharging their policy decision-making and other portfolio responsibilities.

Prevention and Early Support

This category is limited to providing prevention, awareness and early support programmes and services to identify and support children, young people and their families at risk of poor life outcomes.

Statutory Intervention and Transition

This category is limited to providing statutory care and youth justice services, and services to transition children and young people from statutory intervention.

Expenses, Revenue and Capital Expenditure

	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Total Appropriation	1,557,619	1,547,808	1,639,999
Departmental Output Expenses			
Intensive Response	13,450	13,320	13,351
Policy Advice and Ministerial Services	9,973	9,973	9,766
Prevention and Early Support	465,567	461,267	480,442
Statutory Intervention and Transition	1,068,629	1,063,248	1,136,440
Funding for Departmental Output Expenses			
Revenue from the Crown	1,542,194	1,542,194	1,628,853
Intensive Response	13,450	13,450	13,351
Policy Advice and Ministerial Services	9,973	9,973	9,766
Prevention and Early Support	465,567	465,567	480,442
Statutory Intervention and Transition	1,053,204	1,053,204	1,125,294

	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Revenue from Others	15,425	15,425	11,146
Statutory Intervention and Transition	15,425	15,425	11,146

Components of the Appropriation

	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Intensive Response			
Personnel	9,030	9,030	7,983
Children's Costs	1,750	1,750	2,274
Other Costs	2,670	2,540	3,094
Total	13,450	13,320	13,351
Policy Advice and Ministerial Services			
Personnel	7,889	7,889	7,195
Other Costs	2,084	2,084	2,571
Total	9,973	9,973	9,766
Prevention and Early Support			
Preventative Programmes	298,457	296,557	265,437
Personnel	123,117	120,717	156,889
Other Costs	43,993	43,993	58,116
Total	465,567	461,267	480,442
Statutory Intervention and Transition			
Personnel	509,004	509,004	491,934
Placements (bed nights)	249,564	249,564	287,095
Other Children's Costs	177,857	176,446	183,904
Other Costs	132,204	128,234	173,507
Total	1,068,629	1,063,248	1,136,440

What is Intended to be Achieved with this Appropriation

This appropriation is intended to enhance the wellbeing of children and young people, their families, and their communities, who are most in need of extra support.

How Performance will be Assessed for this Appropriation

The progress and achievement of intentions and outputs under this appropriation are monitored with key performance measures assessed under each appropriation category.

What is Intended to be Achieved with each Category and How Performance will be Assessed

Assessment of Performance	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted Standard	Estimated Actual	Budget Standard
Departmental Output Expenses			
Intensive Response			
This category is intended to provide intensive support, with partners and community providers, for families where a child is at risk of going into care. This involves working closely with families so that a child can remain, where possible, safely at home.			
The percentage of children who received intensive response services in the last twelve months, who subsequently did not require an out of home placement, will be at least:	97%	97%	97%
Policy Advice and Ministerial Services			
This category is intended to ensure high-quality policy advice and other support is provided to the Minister and Associate Minister for Children, including timely responses to information requests, ensuring legislative timeframes can be met where required.			
The score for the Minister's satisfaction with the services provided by the policy function, based on the common Ministerial Policy Satisfaction Survey and on a five-point scale, will be at least:	4	4	4
In relation to the quality of policy advice, the average score for policy papers assessed using the common Policy Quality Framework, on a five-point scale, will be at least:	3.5	3.5	3.5
The percentage of ministerial OIA request replies completed five working days prior to the statutory time limit, unless otherwise agreed, will be at least:	95%	95%	95%
The percentage of ministerial replies completed within twenty working days of receipt by Oranga Tamariki, unless otherwise agreed, will be at least:	95%	95%	95%
The percentage of Parliamentary question responses provided to the Minister's Office so that the answers can meet the timeframe set in Parliamentary Standing Orders will be at least:	95%	95%	95%
Prevention and Early Support			
This category is intended to help keep children safely with their families, with the support of community service providers. This includes providing and co-ordinating prevention and early support services to address early signs of need and reduce the risk factors that may lead to a child going into care.			
The percentage of all contracted services which achieved or exceeded the target for their primary contracted measure will be at least:	75%	70%	75%
The percentage of all service contract funding contracted with iwi and Māori organisations will be greater than: (see Note 1)	23%	23%	-
The percentage of critical or very urgent reports of concern, addressed within operational timeframes, will be at least: (see Note 2)	95%	80%	95%

Assessment of Performance	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted Standard	Estimated Actual	Budget Standard
Statutory Intervention and Transition			
This category is intended to deliver well-coordinated support to address the needs of children and their families requiring statutory intervention if concerns and risk factors are not addressed, and to prepare young people for transition from care.			
Report on the percentage of children to exit out of home placement in the last eighteen months, who subsequently required an out of home placement	Report on	Report on	Report on
The number of supported accommodation places available to young people, will be at least: (see Note 3)	150	134	-
The number of young people eligible to return or remain with a caregiver beyond age eighteen, who are enabled to do so, will be at least:	95	95	110
The number of young people, held in police custody for more than 24 hours will be less than: (see Note 4)	140	186	-
The percentage of young people who, when held in police custody, are held for less than 24 hours: (see Note 4)	-	-	At least 85%
The percentage of children in care with quality engagement with an Oranga Tamariki practitioner will be at least:	95%	85%	95%
The percentage of children in care with regular engagement with an Oranga Tamariki practitioner will be at least:	95%	70%	95%
The percentage of children in out of home placement more than three months, who are placed with family/whānau, will be at least: (see Note 5)	58%	53%	-
The percentage of children in out of home placement, who have had two or fewer caregivers over the year, will be at least:	85%	85%	85%
The percentage of children who have been in statutory care for more than six months, who have a completed Gateway assessment, will be at least: (see Note 6)	75%	75%	75%
The percentage of children, in care for more than three months, whose plan reflects actions to establish, maintain or strengthen connections with members of their family, whānau, and/or family group, will be at least: (see Note 7)	95%	85%	-
The percentage of children, in care for more than three months, with a current plan that contains actions to address their needs, when those actions will be taken, and by whom, will be at least:	95%	85%	95%
The percentage of eligible young people who are referred for support from a transition support worker will be at least:	60%	60%	75%
The percentage of siblings in out of home placements, who are placed with at least one sibling, will be at least:	73%	73%	73%
The percentage of tamariki Māori, in care for more than three months, who are being supported to establish, maintain or strengthen connections with their marae, hapū or iwi or for whom strong connections are already in place will be at least: (see Note 8)	95%	60%	-
The percentage of under eighteen-year-olds who previously had a Youth Justice family group conference, who had a subsequent Youth Justice family group conference, will be less than:	40%	40%	40%
The percentage of young people held on remand who are placed within their community will be at least:	30%	30%	30%

Note 1 - This measure has been removed. Oranga Tamariki remains committed to prioritising what matters most for our most vulnerable children and young people. However, the current measure and its associated target are too narrow.

Note 2 - A report of concern is critical when a child or young person has been seriously harmed or is at immediate risk of serious harm and requires immediate involvement by Oranga Tamariki to establish safety. Critical reports of concern must be responded to within 24 hours.

A report of concern is very urgent when a child or young person has been seriously harmed or is at risk of serious harm, but some protective factors are present for the next 48 hours. However, as the situation and/or need are likely to change, high-priority follow-up is required. Very urgent reports of concern must be responded to within 48 hours.

Note 3 - This measure has been removed. The measure was introduced in 2019/20 and then became part of the joint funding of supported accommodation services between Oranga Tamariki and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development in 2021/22. Joint funding from the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development ended in June 2025.

Note 4 - This measure has been removed and has been replaced with the new measure shown in the table below this measure. We know keeping young people (aged 14 to 17 years old) in police custody is not in their best interests. Oranga Tamariki and New Zealand Police work to have young people spend as little time as possible in police custody before they are redirected to more appropriate placements.

Note 5 - This measure has been removed as it does not sufficiently prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. Those entering care now often present with more complex and higher needs, which can be challenging for families to support.

Note 6 - A Gateway assessment is an interagency process that helps to clarify and address the health, education and other needs of the children and young people we work with.

Note 7 - This measure has been removed. This measure has been reported as part of the National Care Standards and does not need to be replaced as there are multiple measures to indicate whether children have their needs addressed through statutory intervention.

Note 8 - This measure has been removed. This measure has been reported as part of the National Care Standards and does not need to be replaced as there are multiple measures to indicate whether children have their needs addressed through statutory intervention.

End of Year Performance Reporting

Performance information for this appropriation will be reported in the Oranga Tamariki-Ministry for Children's Annual Report.

Current and Past Policy Initiatives

Policy Initiative	Year of First Impact	2025/26 Final Budgeted \$000	2026/27 Budget \$000	2027/28 Estimated \$000	2028/29 Estimated \$000	2029/30 Estimated \$000
Intensive Response						
Current Government						
Oranga Tamariki Remuneration Cost Pressures Tagged Contingencies Budget 23 PSPA Contingency Drawdown	2025/26	14	-	-	-	-
Frontline Technology Systems Upgrade (FTSU) - to improve outcomes for children and Family	2024/25	49	55	14	12	12

Policy Initiative	Year of First Impact	2025/26 Final Budgeted \$000	2026/27 Budget \$000	2027/28 Estimated \$000	2028/29 Estimated \$000	2029/30 Estimated \$000
Remuneration Cost Pressures for Frontline Staff	2024/25	167	167	167	167	167
Reduction in Back Office Administration Costs - Oranga Tamariki	2024/25	(152)	(152)	(152)	(152)	(152)
Reduction in Back Office Functions - Oranga Tamariki	2023/24	(493)	(493)	(493)	(493)	(493)
Previous Government						
Public Sector Pay Adjustment - Remuneration Cost Pressure	2023/24	101	101	101	101	101
Oranga Tamariki Remuneration Cost Pressure	2023/24	192	192	192	192	192
Oranga Tamariki Remuneration Cost Pressures Tagged Contingencies Budget 23 PSPA Contingency Drawdown	2023/24	13	13	13	13	13
Accounting for Software as a Service (SaaS) (Capital charge returned)	2022/23	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)
Approval of Reducing risk in critical systems and implementing legislative changes drawdown	2022/23	6	6	6	6	6
Capital Charge Baseline Adjustment from Revaluation of Land and Buildings	2022/23	12	12	12	12	12
Public Sector Pay Adjustment - Vote Oranga Tamariki Remuneration Cost Pressure	2022/23	101	101	101	101	101
Oranga Tamariki Remuneration Cost Pressures	2022/23	192	192	192	192	192
Prevention and Early Support						
Current Government						
Reports of Concern - Meeting Service Demand and Improving Service Efficiency	2026/27	-	2,755	2,001	425	425
Dame Karen Poutasi Response - Strengthening the Safety Nets to Identify and Respond to Children at Risk of Harm	2026/27	-	518	782	-	-
Oranga Tamariki Remuneration Cost Pressures Tagged Contingencies Budget 23 PSPA Contingency Drawdown	2025/26	1,102	-	-	-	-
Supporting Oranga Tamariki social service contracting	2025/26	4,880	7,120	-	-	-
Reduction in Back Office Functions - Oranga Tamariki	2025/26	(9,942)	(13,406)	(13,406)	(13,406)	(13,406)
Pay equity extension: Whānau as first navigator funding for Te Puawaitanga Trust	2024/25	101	103	103	103	103
Frontline Technology Systems Upgrade (FTSU) - to improve outcomes for children and Family	2024/25	9,054	10,284	2,580	2,238	2,238
Fast Track Youth Offending Programme - Oranga Tamariki	2024/25	7,650	7,650	7,650	7,650	7,650
Remuneration Cost Pressures for Frontline Staff	2024/25	4,547	4,547	4,547	4,547	4,547
Reduction in Back Office Administration Costs - Oranga Tamariki	2024/25	(3,824)	(3,824)	(3,824)	(3,824)	(3,824)
Reduction in Contracting Service Costs - Oranga Tamariki	2024/25	(18,000)	(18,000)	(18,000)	(18,000)	(18,000)
Home Builders Family Services Pay Equity	2024/25	221	225	225	225	225

Policy Initiative	Year of First Impact	2025/26 Final Budgeted \$000	2026/27 Budget \$000	2027/28 Estimated \$000	2028/29 Estimated \$000	2029/30 Estimated \$000
Previous Government						
Extending Pay Equity Settlement for Social Workers in Community and Iwi Organisations	2023/24	34,594	36,983	36,983	36,983	36,983
Oranga Tamariki Remuneration Cost Pressures Tagged Contingencies Budget 23 PSPA Contingency Drawdown	2023/24	1,028	1,028	1,028	1,028	1,028
Maintaining the Purchasing Power of Oranga Tamariki's Partner-provided Services	2023/24	13,018	13,018	13,018	13,018	13,018
Maintaining Momentum Across Te Aorerekura - Court Support Service for Tamariki and Rangatahi Sexual Violence Witnesses	2023/24	2,118	3,259	3,259	3,259	3,259
Oranga Tamariki Remuneration Cost Pressures	2022/23	15,342	15,342	15,342	15,342	15,342
Public Sector Pay Adjustment - Vote Oranga Tamariki Remuneration Cost Pressure	2022/23	8,029	8,029	8,029	8,029	8,029
Preventing FVSV Family Start-towards more integrated family violence and sexual violence prevention and early response	2022/23	1,160	1,160	1,160	1,160	1,160
Policy Advice and Ministerial Services						
Current Government						
Oranga Tamariki Remuneration Cost Pressures Tagged Contingencies Budget 23 PSPA Contingency Drawdown	2025/26	49	-	-	-	-
Reduction in Back Office Functions - Oranga Tamariki	2025/26	(453)	(611)	(611)	(611)	(611)
Remuneration Cost Pressures for Frontline Staff	2024/25	207	207	207	207	207
Reduction in Back Office Administration Costs - Oranga Tamariki	2024/25	(192)	(192)	(192)	(192)	(192)
Previous Government						
Oranga Tamariki Remuneration Cost Pressures Tagged Contingencies Budget 23 PSPA Contingency Drawdown	2023/24	46	46	46	46	46
Oranga Tamariki Remuneration Cost Pressures	2022/23	684	684	684	684	684
Public Sector Pay Adjustment - Vote Oranga Tamariki Remuneration Cost Pressure	2022/23	358	358	358	358	358
Statutory Intervention and Transition						
Current Government						
Specialist Care Responses - Meeting the Needs of Increasing Numbers of Children with Complex Needs	2026/27	-	20,475	24,320	23,745	24,983
Reports of Concern - Meeting Service Demand and Improving Service Efficiency	2026/27	-	17,028	23,834	22,024	22,024
Dame Karen Poutasi Response - Strengthening the Safety Nets to Identify and Respond to Children at Risk of Harm	2026/27	-	8,658	17,722	-	-
Young Serious Offenders - Implementation of a new Legislative Regime	2026/27	-	4,584	5,585	5,585	5,585
Costs arising from Stafford v Attorney-General settlement	2025/26	140	200	300	200	200
Proceeds of Crime - supporting Oranga Tamariki social service contracting	2025/26	1,327	1,070	1,062	-	-

Policy Initiative	Year of First Impact	2025/26 Final Budgeted \$000	2026/27 Budget \$000	2027/28 Estimated \$000	2028/29 Estimated \$000	2029/30 Estimated \$000
Professionalisation of the Residential Workforce Tagged Contingencies Budget 25 Contingency Drawdown	2025/26	3,383	13,481	12,134	12,253	12,253
Oranga Tamariki Remuneration Cost Pressures Tagged Contingencies Budget 23 PSPA Contingency Drawdown	2025/26	2,835	-	-	-	-
Infrastructure Remediation for Residences	2025/26	2,282	1,370	1,470	1,387	1,299
Increasing the Capacity of Secure Residences	2025/26	341	5,940	5,940	5,940	5,940
Supporting Oranga Tamariki social service contracting	2025/26	7,320	10,680	-	-	-
Oranga Tamariki Contractual Cost Pressures - Changes to Oranga Tamariki Social Service Contracting	2025/26	14,193	-	-	-	-
Military Style Academies - Oranga Tamariki	2025/26	3,478	9,218	9,218	9,218	9,218
Safety Improvements in Youth Justice Residences	2025/26	3,604	6,146	5,890	5,966	5,966
Making the care system safe - recognising and responding to abuse in care	2025/26	7,600	3,300	3,550	1,550	1,550
Making the care system safe - building a diverse, capable and safe care workforce	2025/26	155	-	-	-	-
Return of Capital Charge	2025/26	(4,280)	(4,280)	(4,280)	(4,280)	(4,280)
Reduction in Back Office Functions - Oranga Tamariki	2025/26	(26,396)	(35,590)	(35,590)	(35,590)	(35,590)
Frontline Technology Systems Upgrade (FTSU) - Tranche 1	2024/25	14,661	16,653	4,177	3,624	3,624
High Needs Children Services - Oranga Tamariki Cost Pressure	2024/25	29,483	29,673	29,673	29,673	29,673
Addressing Serious Youth Offending - Oranga Tamariki	2024/25	5,946	7,190	7,563	7,563	7,563
Remuneration Cost Pressures for Frontline Staff	2024/25	12,070	12,070	12,070	12,070	12,070
Reduction in Back Office Administration Costs - Oranga Tamariki	2024/25	(10,635)	(10,635)	(10,635)	(10,635)	(10,635)
Reduction in Contracting Service Costs - Oranga Tamariki	2024/25	(12,000)	(12,000)	(12,000)	(12,000)	(12,000)
Previous Government						
Extending Pay Equity Settlement for Social Workers in Community and Iwi Organisations	2023/24	14,922	15,985	15,985	15,985	15,985
Oranga Tamariki Remuneration Cost Pressures Tagged Contingencies Budget 23 PSPA Contingency Drawdown	2023/24	2,645	2,645	2,645	2,645	2,645
Emergency Housing Reset and Redesign - Housing Education Programme	2023/24	240	240	240	240	240
Maintaining the Purchasing Power of Oranga Tamariki's Partner-provided Services	2023/24	2,647	2,647	2,647	2,647	2,647
Oranga Tamariki Remuneration Cost Pressures	2022/23	39,484	39,484	39,484	39,484	39,484
Public Sector Pay Adjustment - Vote Oranga Tamariki Remuneration Cost Pressure	2022/23	20,665	20,665	20,665	20,665	20,665

Reasons for Change in Appropriation

The increase in this appropriation for 2026/27 of \$82.380 million is mainly due to:

- an increase of \$21 million due to an expense transfer of \$10.500 million in funding from 2025/26 to 2026/27 for the Enabling Communities programme
- an increase in funding of \$20.475 million related to the Budget 26 initiative Specialist Care Responses - Meeting the Needs of Increasing Numbers of Children with Complex Needs
- an increase in funding of \$19.783 million related to the Budget 26 initiative Reports of Concern - Meeting Service Demand and Improving Service Efficiency
- an increase of \$16.496 million due to an expense transfer of \$5.042 million from 2025/26 to 2026/27 and a further expense transfer of \$6.412 million from 2025/26 to 2027/28 for Frontline Technology Systems Upgrade (FTSU) - modernising the technology our frontline staff use
- an increase of \$13.298 million due to an increase in funding of \$11.698 million related to Professionalisation of the Residential Workforce and an expense transfer of \$1.600 million from 2025/26
- an increase in funding of \$9.176 million related to the Budget 26 initiative Dame Karen Poutasi Response - Strengthening the Safety Nets to Identify and Respond to Children at Risk of Harm
- an increase in funding of \$6.540 million for Military Style Academies
- an increase in funding of \$6.328 million for the Budget 2024 and Budget 2025 Addressing Serious Youth Offending programme
- an increase in funding of \$5.599 million for Secure Residences - Re-opening of Te Oranga Residence
- an increase of \$5.342 million due to an expense transfer of \$2.542 million in funding for Safety Improvement in Youth Justice Residences
- an increase in funding of \$4.094 million for Extending Pay Equity Settlement for Social Workers in the funded sector
- an increase in funding of \$3.448 million for Consumer Price Index adjustments and volume changes to Foster Care and other allowances effective from 1 April 2026
- an increase in funding of \$3.228 million for Frontline Technology Systems Upgrade (FTSU) - modernising the technology our frontline staff use
- an increase in funding of \$2.655 million for Making the Care System Safe - recognising and responding to abuse in care
- an increase in funding of \$1.141 million for Maintaining Momentum Across Te Aorerekura - Court Support Service for Tamariki and Rangatahi Sexual Violence Witnesses, and
- an increase in funding of \$140,000 for costs arising from Stafford v Attorney-General settlement.

Partially offset by:

- a decrease in funding of \$23.655 million associated with the cessation of time-limited funding to support Changes to Oranga Tamariki Social Service Contracting
- a decrease in funding of \$12.944 million related to back-office staff funding to support Budget 2024 savings initiatives

- a decrease in funding of \$6.104 million related to the drawdown of Budget 2021 and Budget 2022 contingency funding
- a decrease in funding of \$4.257 million related to one-off funding from the proceeds of crime fund in the 2025/26 financial year
- a net decrease in funding of \$4 million related to time-limited social service contracting funding
- a decrease in funding of \$3.538 million associated with the cessation of time-limited funding from the Ministry of Social Development for Disability Support Services
- a decrease in funding of \$912,000 for Infrastructure Remediation
- a decrease in funding of \$911,000 related to the drawdown of Budget 2023 contingency funding, and
- a decrease in funding of \$600,000 related to Iron Mountain records accessed by the Ministry of Social Development.

Redress for Abuse in Care (M93) (A32)

Overarching Purpose Statement

The single overarching purpose of this appropriation is to enable the Government's response to redress recommendations made by the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care.

Scope of Appropriation

Departmental Output Expenses

Delivering redress for abuse in care

This category is limited to responding to, designing, implementing and delivering redress for abuse in care.

Non-Departmental Output Expenses

Support Services

This category is limited to providing third party support services to people who report experiencing abuse in care.

Non-Departmental Other Expenses

Redress Payments

This category is limited to providing financial redress to people who experienced abuse in care.

Expenses, Revenue and Capital Expenditure

	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Total Appropriation	4,066	2,978	5,938
Departmental Output Expenses			
Delivering redress for abuse in care	1,768	1,768	3,934

	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted \$000	Estimated Actual \$000	Budget \$000
Non-Departmental Output Expenses			
Support Services	405	217	456
Non-Departmental Other Expenses			
Redress Payments	1,893	993	1,548
Funding for Departmental Output Expenses			
Revenue from the Crown	1,768	1,768	3,934
Delivering redress for abuse in care	1,768	1,768	3,934

What is Intended to be Achieved with this Appropriation

This appropriation is intended to achieve fair, consistent redress and support to survivors of abuse in care.

How Performance will be Assessed for this Appropriation

	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted Standard	Estimated Actual	Budget Standard
Assessment of Performance			
Redress for Abuse in Care			
The percentage of eligibility requirements completed for redress applications are completed within 20 working days will be at least:	85%	New measure	85%

What is Intended to be Achieved with each Category and How Performance will be Assessed

	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted Standard	Estimated Actual	Budget Standard
Assessment of Performance			
Departmental Output Expenses			
Delivering redress for abuse in care			
This category is intended to design and deliver a well-functioning redress system.			
The percentage of inquiries received by Oranga Tamariki are responded to within 20 working days of receipt of inquiry will be at least:	85%	New measure	85%
Non-Departmental Output Expenses			
Support Services			
This category is intended to provide support services to people who lodge a claim for experiencing abuse in state care.			
The percentage of support services requested by claimants are confirmed within 20 working days will be at least:	85%	New measure	85%

	2025/26		2026/27
	Final Budgeted Standard	Estimated Actual	Budget Standard
Assessment of Performance			
Non-Departmental Other Expenses			
Redress Payments			
This category is intended to provide consistent and timely payments to people who have experienced abuse in care.			
An exemption was granted under section 15D(2)(b)(ii) because end-of-year performance information for the appropriation or category is not likely to be informative in the light of the nature of the transaction or causal event giving rise to the expenses or capital expenditure			

End of Year Performance Reporting

Performance information for this appropriation will be reported in the Oranga Tamariki - Ministry for Children's Annual Report.

Current and Past Policy Initiatives

Policy Initiative	Year of First Impact	2025/26 Final Budgeted \$000	2026/27 Budget \$000	2027/28 Estimated \$000	2028/29 Estimated \$000	2029/30 Estimated \$000
Delivering redress for abuse in care						
Addressing the Wrongs of the Past - Redress System Changes and Provision of Redress for Abuse in Care	2025/26	768	3,934	4,123	4,313	4,313
Redress for Survivors of Abuse in Care: Work on an Improved Redress Pathway and Interim Enhancements to Current Processes	2025/26	1,045	-	-	-	-
Support Services						
Addressing the Wrongs of the Past - Redress System Changes and Provision of Redress for Abuse in Care	2025/26	-	456	456	456	465
Redress for Survivors of Abuse in Care: Work on an Improved Redress Pathway and Interim Enhancements to Current Processes	2025/26	405	-	-	-	-
Redress Payments						
Addressing the Wrongs of the Past - Redress System Changes and Provision of Redress for Abuse in Care	2025/26	448	1,548	1,500	1,500	1,500
Redress for Survivors of Abuse in Care: Work on an Improved Redress Pathway and Interim Enhancements to Current Processes	2025/26	600	-	-	-	-

Reasons for Change in Appropriation

The increase in this appropriation for 2026/27 to \$5.938 million is mainly due to an increase in funding of \$1.872 million representing a full year of funding from the Budget 25 initiative.