

## Development Project 'Responding to the Wilson Report 2011 – Services to Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children Stakeholder Update (8)

**Wednesday 25th March 2015**

### Introduction

Here is the latest information on the Development Project 'Responding to the Wilson Report 2011 – Services to Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children. This is the eighth project update.

### Key Activities 25<sup>th</sup> March 2015

- On the basis that the changes to service provision trialled in the Hawkes Bay and Waikato have successfully provided the outcomes identified at the outset of the Pilots the Ministry of Education (MoE) and Combined Board of Trustees for the Deaf Education Centres (DEC) have:
  - Maintained the changes to service provision in the Waikato and Hawkes Bay
  - Made a staged implementation of the changes established in the Waikato and Hawkes Bay to the following MoE Districts – Bay of Plenty East, Bay of Plenty West, Taranaki and Canterbury during Term 3 and 4 2014.
- The Ministry of Education (MoE) and Combined Board of Trustees for the Deaf Education Centres (DEC) will review the outcomes of the staged implementation in the MoE Districts – Bay of Plenty East, Bay of Plenty West, Taranaki, Canterbury, Waikato and Hawkes Bay and then make a decision on a staged implementation to other MoE Districts during 2015 / 2016.

Maintaining and reviewing the outcomes of the changes to service provision implemented in the Waikato, Hawkes Bay, Bay of Plenty East, Bay of Plenty West, Taranaki and Canterbury will provide the opportunity to further develop protocols and processes around MoE and DEC Regional services in regard to referrals, data collection and service delivery resourcing and design.

### Project background

- The AoDC Development Project is part of the Ministry of Education's focus on developing and providing a good mix of services to achieve the best educational outcomes for deaf children and young people across New Zealand.
- The purpose of the project is to identify recommendations from the *Wilson Report – Review of the Role of the Adviser on Deaf Children, 2011* that will form the basis of an implementation strategy.
- The project's outcomes will complement the range of services and support currently available for deaf children and young people.

### Project aims

- To clarify and differentiate between the Advisers on Deaf Children and Resource Teachers of the Deaf roles.
- To ensure that deaf education services are more consistent

- To make a shift to service provision with an Early Years focus for AoDC.
- To further clarify the AoDC role with school-aged children.
- To develop a framework of services that seamlessly links the Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Programme, early identification and the Ministry of Education's Early Years services.

The Development Project 'Responding to the Wilson Report 2011 – Services to Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children is underpinned by findings from the Government's *Review of Special Education, 2010* and recommendations in the *Wilson Report – Review of the Role of the Adviser on Deaf Children, 2011*.

### **Project stakeholders**

A range of people and organisations are central to and will continue to be consulted throughout this project.

They are New Zealand Federation for Deaf Children Inc., Deaf Aotearoa New Zealand, van Asch Deaf Education Centre, Kelston Deaf Education Centre, Northern Cochlear Implant Programme, Southern Cochlear Implant Programme, District Health Board Audiologists, MoE, NZEI, NZ Association Advisers on Deaf Children.

### **Latest project outcomes (June 2014 to March 2015)**

- The MoE and the Deaf Education Centres have completed a staged implementation of the changes implemented in the Waikato and Hawkes Bay to the MoE Districts – Bay of Plenty East, Bay of Plenty West, Taranaki and Canterbury.
  - A shift to an 'Early Years focus for AoDC and a deployment of service provision for students Y4+ at school to the Deaf Education Centres.
- The changes to service provision in the Waikato, Hawkes Bay, Bay of Plenty East, Bay of Plenty West, Taranaki and Canterbury will continue to be monitored and reviewed.

### **Next steps (April 2015 to July 2015)**

- Continue to review and refine the changes to service provision in the Waikato and Hawkes Bay, Bay of Plenty East, Bay of Plenty West, Taranaki and Canterbury
- Make a decision on the staged implementation to other Ministry of Education Districts. Currently working towards a roll out to other Ministry of Education Districts in July 2015.

### **Communication with stakeholders**

The next stakeholder Update (9) will be sent out in July 2015.

### **Contacts**

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