

Development Project 'Responding to the Wilson Report 2011 – Services to Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children Stakeholder Update (3)

Monday 10th September, 2012

Introduction

Here is the latest information on the two-year Development Project 'Responding to the Wilson Report 2011 – Services to Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children run by Practice Leader AoDC Mark Douglas. This is the third project update.

Key messages at 10th September 2012

- AoDCs will continue to be employed by the Ministry of Education.
- In response to feedback gathered to the draft consultation document sent out to stakeholders in July a 'National Statement of Direction' will be developed in collaboration with the Deaf Education Centres.
- A draft of the 'National Statement of Direction' will be sent out to stakeholders for comment in October 2012.

Project background

- The AoDC Development Project is part of the Ministry of Education, Special 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 AoDC and Resource Teachers of the Deaf roles.
- To make deaf education services more consistent
- To explore service provision with an Early Years focus.
- To clarify how AoDC will work 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 international best evidence on deaf education, 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 Ash Deaf Education Centre, Kelston Deaf Education Centre, Northern Cochlear Implant Programme, Southern Cochlear Implant Programme, District Health Board Audiologists and Advisors on Deaf Children.

Latest outcomes (July to August)

Development of a draft consultation document

- A draft consultation document was sent to stakeholders in June.
- Meetings were held with stakeholders during July and August to discuss and gather feedback on the draft document.
- Feedback from stakeholders and the sector has been collated.
- Suggested directions in the consultation document are in the process of being amended in response to sector and stakeholder feedback.

Next steps (September to November)

Meetings and consultation

- In response to the feedback gathered and in collaboration with the Deaf Education Centres a draft 'National Statement of Direction' will be developed outlining suggested directions to assist the sector to make a shift to an Early Years focus for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children.
- A draft of the 'National Statement of Direction' will be sent out to the sector and stakeholders for comment in October
- 'National Statement of Direction' to be finalised by November 2012.
- Two Ministry of Education Districts to be identified as areas to pilot suggested changes in the 'National Statement of Direction' in collaboration with the Deaf Education Centres
- Proposed implementation of changes to commence in 2013

Communication with stakeholders

The next stakeholder update (4) will be sent out after the October 29th steering group meeting.

Contacts

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