

24 December 2020

National Office
P O Box 31036
Lower Hutt

Ph: (04) 586 1077

To The Hon Minister for Children Kelvin Davis

Re Response to the Independent Children's Monitor third report (ICM)

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a response to the third report of the ICM. The Open Home Foundation of NZ (OHF) continues to appreciate the way in which the monitor and its staff engage with us and the sector as it carries out its important function of monitoring the Oranga Tamariki system.

We continue to find the monitors approach collaborative, inquisitive and also educational in terms of OHFs drive towards continuous improvement.

We particularly found the field assessment to one of our Service Centre teams very useful and informative. We appreciated that the Monitor's staff worked hard to gain a good understanding of the way OHF staff outworked our policies and processes in relation to allegations of abuse and the various complexities that can often be present.

Our staff appreciated being able to demonstrate how OHF seeks to support tamariki, whānau and foster parents during difficult situations.

We are looking forward to working with the ICM and the ongoing monitoring that will occur throughout 2021 focussing on all of the National Care Standards. We appreciate how the Monitor and staff along with Oranga Tamariki are keen to help us best prepare for this.

Thank you once again for the opportunity to provide a response to the Monitors third report. We applaud the work of the ICM and acknowledge how its work is helping all organisations improve in the way they provide care for the tamaiti and rangatahi they have the privilege of caring for.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. Irwin', written in a cursive style.

Don Irwin
Chief Executive