



Deaf Education New Zealand Aotearoa • Maturanga Taringa Noa iho Aotearoa

The purpose of this *www.deafed* is to bring you up to date with the activities of the Service Design Group and the process for updating the National Plan for the education of deaf and hearing impaired learners in Aotearoa/New Zealand.

1. Through the Deaf Education Access Forum, the sector wanted to see progress on the implementation of an effective, nationally co-ordinated service that followed the principles of the National Plan for the Education of Deaf and Hearing Impaired Learners in Aotearoa New Zealand.
2. DEANZ developed a proposal to bring together a group of stakeholders to develop this process. This proposal was accepted by Hon. Lianne Dalziel, Associate Minister for Special Education.
3. The Service Design Group was then established by DEANZ. This Group consists of members of the DEANZ Board members and representatives of the core service providers including the Ministry of Education. The April Forum meeting ratified the Terms of Reference for this group.

The Service Design Group has now met twice in Wellington. At the first meeting the group agreed on the code of conduct, clarified the goals for the group and moved to update the National Plan. It was agreed that the national framework will include reflective evidence based practice, recognise that differences in deaf education are to be seen as richness,

there will be effective pathways with a clear service flow. We also acknowledged what is working well within Deaf Education now.

Task groups were formed, with specific activities to focus on, including one on the service needs of the 0–6 age group addressing the issue raised by the Forum – ‘EARLY’ services.

Updating the National Plan was seen as a priority. DEANZ has carried out the following steps:

Part 1: updated the summary of historical development and Need for Change sections.

Parts 3 and 4 reworded Principles 13 and 14 to clarify their meaning

Added Principle 18 to acknowledge the Education and Health interface. As appropriate, goals were updated.

Part 5 of this section will include the action plan as devised by the Service Design Group

Parts 1, 3 and 4 are now available for community consultation. A copy can be obtained from Rachel Noble

deanz.rnoble@xtra.co.nz or via the website

www.deafed.org.nz Updating the data in Part 2 on the child and young person population and resource is taking place.

Submissions are welcomed and can be sent to DEANZ Private Bag MBE M223, Auckland, fax 09 369 5831 or emailed to deanz.rnoble@xtra.co.nz Please send your submissions by July 15, 2003.