



***This edition of www.deafed will update you on activities of the Service Design Group and provide you with some key statistics on the sector.***

## **SERVICE DESIGN GROUP**

The Service Design Group, with members of the DEANZ Board and representatives of the core service providers, met again in mid November. The group continued to focus on the implementation of an effective, nationally co-ordinated service that follows the principles of the National Plan for the Education of Deaf and Hearing Impaired Children and Young People in Aotearoa New Zealand.

## **SERVICE MATRIX**

The Service Matrix was developed through a process which began by looking at the characteristics of the deaf and hearing impaired learner at each stage. Following this, the characteristics of the education system for each age/stage were outlined.

The Matrix includes four universal aspects:

1. Identification
2. Referral
3. Services
4. Assessment and Monitoring

The needs and services required for each sector (Early Childhood, Primary and High School levels) were developed with clear outcomes stated for each level.

A copy of the document is available on the DEANZ Website [www.deafed.org.nz](http://www.deafed.org.nz). Be aware that this is a working document.

## **OUTCOME OF SDG DISCUSSIONS**

The Service Design Group discussed at length the steps required to implement the Matrix. The group agreed on the overall direction of the Matrix, considered the evidence presented by the reviews that have been conducted in the sector recently and looked at different models of delivery. Most importantly, the group considered the data presented to illustrate the current nature of the sector.

Three task groups were established to develop discussion documents/position papers between now and April/May next year. The three groups are:

1. Maori children and learners – identifying the issues for this group
2. Pilot Projects – establishing the principles for pilot studies and identify possible pilot projects which could implement aspects of the matrix.
3. Agenda for Action – a strategic approach which will incorporate working structures, resource gathering to outline the implementation phase.

The group will meet again to discuss the outcome of the discussion documents.

## **MINISTERIAL DISCUSSIONS**

The Matrix was shared with Sally Jackson, Greg Ariell and Heather Penny from the Ministry of Education, Carol Searle from the Ministry of Health and also Jan Scown from the Office for Disability Issues. They were positive with the progress of the Service Design Group and gave suggestions for moving ahead.

### **Known statistics:**

- 2345 deaf and hearing impaired children and young people were identified during the mid 2003 stocktake.
- Predictions from the Health sector estimate there are 3026 children and young people with a hearing loss.
- Degree of loss: 11.8% slight loss, 43% mild loss, 11% moderate severe loss, 6.5% profound loss.
- 9% early childhood sector, 15.8% verified as 'high' needs, 10.4% verified as 'very high' needs. 50.2% are moderate needs students who require ongoing services with the remaining 14.6% requiring assessment only.
- A total of 716 students (33.5%) are seen by Teachers of the Deaf.
- 6% wear cochlear implants.
- 71% do not have other disabilities.
- There are 163.1 Teachers of the Deaf, 97.2 of these are Itinerant/Resource Teachers of the Deaf. There are 22 Advisers on Deaf children, 3 Cochlear Habilitationist and 4 Auditory Verbal Therapists.
- There are also ORRS Teachers, and Teacher Aides who work with the classroom teachers.

Facts from Part 2, *National Plan for the Education of Deaf and Hearing Impaired Children and Young People in Aotearoa New Zealand 2003*.