

6 March 2017

To:

Rt Hon Bill English, Prime Minister
Hon Anne Tolley, Minister of Social Development, Minister for Children
Hon Amy Adams, Minister Responsible for Social Investment
Hon Alfred Ngaro MP, Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector

Individual Client Level Data and Social Investment: A Proposal

As you will be aware, MSD has advised that from July 2017 provider contracts will include the requirement to gather and share identifiable data about clients accessing services (ICLD). We understand this directive and timeframe has been set by ministers.

ComVoices members have engaged constructively – and continue to do so - with MSD on the basis of an earlier issues paper we prepared. However, significant issues remain unresolved.

The purpose of this paper is to advise ministers of those issues and to propose an alternative approach to deliver a robust system that will support the social investment programme.

The key request at this time is to agree a timeframe that will enable full discussion involving all interested parties. A July 2017 implementation date, when hundreds of providers throughout the country will be faced with contracts that include this ICLD, is creating an unhelpful environment to engage constructively on issues that are challenging for providers and MSD alike.

You will be aware that this matter has now entered the public arena. It is our preference to engage directly with you to seek a path forward and we are therefore requesting an early meeting to discuss the matters in our attached Issues Paper, including our proposal for a way forward.

Brenda Pilott
Chair, ComVoices

c.c. Brendan Boyle, CE Ministry of Social Development
Grainne Moss, CE Ministry for Vulnerable Children Oranga Tamariki
Murray Edridge, DCE Community Investment, MSD