Presbyterian Support East Coast (PSEC) Response to the Royal Commission (RCI) Recommendations on Abuse in Care

1. Recommendations specific to faith-based organisations (PSEC)

Recommendation	Response	Comments	Action Plan
Recommendation 3 Public acknowledgments and apologies for historical abuse and neglect in the care of the State (both direct and indirectly provided care) and faith-based institutions should be made to survivors, their whānau and support networks by: a. the most senior leaders of all faith- based institutions and without limitation b. the Chief Executive Officer (or equivalent) of each individual Presbyterian Support Organisation should make public apologies and acknowledgements for abuse and neglect in the care of their respective Presbyterian Support organisation	Accept	PSEC developed the apology wording taking into account perspective of survivors, other stakeholders and learnings from the Whanaketia. Published on PSEC website on 30/08/24.	From September 2024 <u>CEO</u> PSEC apology to be presented to various stakeholder groups.
Recommendation 5 All entities that provide care, or have provided care, directly or indirectly on behalf of the State and faith-based entities, local authorities and any other relevant entities should review an appropriateness of names of	Accept		By April 2025 <u>Executive Team</u> Consider: - Review of Hillsbrook's name - Removing photos of Hillsbrook Children's Home from public display

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 proven perpetrators and institutions where abuse and neglect took place. a. review the appropriateness of any streets, public amenities, public honours or any memorials named after, depicting, recognising or celebrating a proven perpetrator of abuse and neglect in care and/or an institution where proven abuse and neglect took place b. consider what steps may be taken to change the names and what else should be done address the harm caused to survivors by the memorialisation of 			
Recommendation 6 Where there are reasonable grounds to believe that torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment have occurred in care directly or indirectly on behalf of the State or faith-based entities, and the relevant allegations have not been investigated by NZ Police or credible new information has arisen since the allegations were investigated, NZ Police should: a. open or re-open independent and transparent criminal investigations into possible criminal offending b. proactively and widely advertise the intent to investigate and ongoing investigations c. provide appropriate assistance and support to survivors, their whānau and	Accept		Respond to individual survivors if they come forward.

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support networks who contact them in			
relation to the investigations.			
Recommendation 7	Accept in principle	Subject to legal advice about	Respond to individual survivors if they come forward.
Where there are reasonable grounds to		understanding on what is	We will do all we can to support survivors who may
believe that torture, or cruel, inhuman,		required.	wish to raise matters with the NZ Police.
or degrading treatment or punishment			
have occurred in care, the State, faith-			
based institutions and indirect care			
providers should:			
 a. provide reasonable assistance to any NZ Police investigation 			
b. take all reasonable steps to ensure an			
impartial and independent investigation is			
carried out by an appropriate investigator			
c. if there is credible evidence of breaches			
of the law (including breaches of human			
rights), ensure that appropriate redress is			
provided to the survivors, consistent with			
applicable domestic and/or international			
obligations			
d. use best endeavours to have the			
liability of every relevant institution in			
relation to such acts determined. This may			
include:			
i. seeking opinions from King's Counsel,			
which are then shared with relevant survivors, on the nature of the conduct			
and the liability of relevant institutions,			
including as applicable under the New			
Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990.			
Consideration may also be given to			
seeking declaratory judgments from the			
courts. Survivors should be fully			

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supported to take part in these initiatives, including with funding for legal and other expenses ii. not pleading limitation defences in cases brought by survivors, for as long as limitation defences remain available.			
Recommendation 8 The government should take all practicable steps, including incentives and, if necessary, compulsion, to ensure that faith-based institutions and indirect care providers join the puretumu torowhānui system and scheme once it is established		Subject to further consideration(STFC) Once we know the full details on the proposed puretumu torowhānui system then we can advise if we accept the recommendation.	PSEC will be engaged and monitor developments of proposed puretumu torowhānui system.
Recommendation 9 Representatives of faith-based institutions and indirect care providers should meet with relevant State representatives and agree on what steps they can take, whether separately or together, to ensure that survivors, their whānau and support networks are made aware of the puretumu torowhānui system and scheme and support options available to them.	Accept in principle		
Recommendation 20 State and faith-based entities The government and faith-based institutions should jointly establish a fund to provide contestable funding for projects that		We acknowledge the value of this initiative and would need to know more details	PSEC will be engaged with developments of proposed puretumu torowhānui system.

Recommendation	Response	Comments	Action Plan
promote effective community healing from the collective impacts of abuse and neglect in care, like those established in Canada and Australia. The entity holding and distributing the funding should be independent.		about the commitment to this before we can advise our position.	
Recommendation 39 The State, faith-based entities (including indirect care providers) and others involved in the care system should be guided by the following Care Safety Principles for preventing and responding to abuse and neglect when making decisions, performing functions, or exercising powers and duties in relation to the care of children, young people and adults in care: a. Care Safety Principle 1: The care system should recognise, uphold and enhance the mana and mauri of every person in care i. each person in care lives free from abuse and neglect and their overall oranga, (wellbeing) is supported in a holistic way ii. care providers understand and provide for each person and their unique strengths, needs and circumstances iii. the importance of whānau and friendships is recognised and support from family, support networks and peers is encouraged, to enable people in care to be less isolated and connected to their community	Accept in principle	Existing care is audited internally and externally. Review of organizational Policies – every 3 years. We expect to be working with government funders on Care Standards relevant to service delivery – Oranga Tamariki, Te Whatu Ora, MSD.	 Principle 4: ii, iii,v PSEC is in an influencing, not decision- making position. We will engage with developments of new Care Safety Standards and legislation. Complete July 2025: List of relevant organizational policies matching each of the care standards requirements will be compiled, available on request. Policies not in place will be developed by Executive Team members responsible for relevant portfolios. Review and development: <u>GM Social Services</u> Principle 1:i,ii,iii,iv Principle 3: i,iv Principle 4: i,iv Principle 5: i,ii,y

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Second in the second state based and				
iv. people in care are celebrated and nurtured.			Principle 6: i, iii,iv	
b. Care Safety Principle 2: People in care			Principle 9: i,ii,iii	
should participate in and make decisions			Principle 11: i,ii,iii	
affecting them to the maximum extent				
possible and be taken seriously:				
i. people in care can participate in				
decisions that affect their lives, with the				
assistance of decision-making supports				
and/or an independent advocate they				
have chosen, where required			HR Manager	
ii. people in care can access abuse and/or			Principle 3: ii,iii	
neglect prevention programmes and			Principle 5: i,ii,v	
information			Principle 6: ii	
iii. staff and care workers are aware of			Principle 7: i,ii,iii,iv,v,vi	
signs of abuse and/or neglect and			Principle 8: i,ii,iii,iv	
facilitate ways for people in care to raise			Principle 9: iv	
concerns			Principle 3.17	
iv. people who are currently or have			•	
previously been in care can participate in			Principle 12: i,ii,iii,iv,v	
decision-making and policymaking about				
the care system.				
c. Care Safety Principle 3: Whānau and				
support networks should be involved in			CEO	
decision-making processes wherever			Principle 5: iii,iv	
possible and appropriate:				
i. connections between people in care and				
their whānau and support networks are				
actively supported, and whānau and support networks can participate in				
decisions affecting the person in care				
wherever possible and appropriate				
ii. care providers engage in open				
communication with whānau and support				
communication with whanau and support	1			

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networks about their abuse and neglect			
prevention approach			
iii. whānau and support networks are informed about and can have a say in			
organisational and system-level policy			
iv. whānau, hapū, iwi and Māori can			
participate in decision-making processes			
about their mokopuna and uri.			
d. Care Safety Principle 4: The State, faith-			
based entities (including indirect care			
providers) and others involved in the care			
system should give effect to te Tiriti o			
Waitangi and enable Māori to exercise			
tino rangatiratanga:			
i. whānau, hapū, iwi and Māori exercise			
the right to tino rangatiratanga over			
kāinga and are empowered to care for			
their tamariki, rangatahi, pakeke Māori			
and whānau according to their tikanga and			
mātauranga			
ii. the Crown actively devolves to Māori			
policy and investment decisions about the			
care system, design and delivery of			
supports and services for, and specific care			
decisions about, tamariki, rangatahi and			
pakeke Māori			
iii. until the realisation of principle 4(ii),			
Māori and the Crown should collaborate			
on policy and investment decisions about			
the care system, the design and delivery			
supports and services for, and specific care			
decisions about, tamariki, rangatahi and			
pakeke Māori			
iv. tamariki, rangatahi and pakeke Māori			

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who need care live as Māori and are			
connected to their whānau, hapū, iwi,			
whakapapa, whenua, reo and tikanga			
v. wellbeing for tamariki, rangatahi and			
pakeke Māori is understood and			
supported through an ao Māori			
worldview, encompassing tapu, mana, mauri and wairua.			
e. Care Safety Principle 5: Abuse and neglect prevention should be embedded			
in the leadership, governance and culture of all State and faith-based entities (and			
indirect care providers) involved in the			
care system, including government			
agencies, faith leaders, care providers and			
staff and care workers:			
i. leaders across the care system champion			
the prevention of abuse and neglect in care			
ii. prevention of abuse and neglect is a			
shared responsibility at all levels of the			
care system			
iii. governance arrangements in agencies			
and entities ensure implementation of			
measures to prevent abuse and neglect in care and there are accountabilities and			
obligations set at all levels			
iv. risk management strategies focus on			
abuse and neglect prevention v. codes of conduct set clear behavioural			
expectations of all staff and care workers.			
f. Care Safety Principle 6: Care providers			
should recognise, uphold and implement			
human rights standards and obligations			

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and the Enabling Good Lives principles,			
and recognise and provide for diverse			
needs including Deaf and disabled people			
and people experiencing mental distress:			
i. people in care are supported and			
provided accessible information to			
understand their rights			
ii. care providers have human rights			
standards embedded in their policies and practice			
iii. care providers understand people's			
diverse circumstances and respond			
effectively to people who are at increased			
risk of experiencing abuse and/or neglect			
iv. Enabling Good Lives principles			
underpin all support for disabled people,			
including culturally appropriate support as			
determined by whānau hauā, tāngata			
whaikaha and tāngata whaiora, to enable			
and empower disabled people to live well,			
participate in their community without			
segregation or institutionalisation and			
make decisions about their lives.			
g. Care Safety Principle 7: Staff and care			
workers should be suitable and supported:			
i. all stages of recruitment, including			
advertising and screening, emphasise the			
values of caring for people in care, safety			
of people in care and prevention of abuse			
and neglect			
ii. staff and care workers have regularly			
updated safety checks			
iii. staff and care workers receive			

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appropriate induction and training and are			
aware of their responsibilities to prevent			
abuse and neglect, including reporting			
obligations			
iv. staff and care workers receive			
appropriate training to ensure they have			
cultural competency			
v. education programmes for staff and			
care workers include units focused on			
understanding and preventing abuse and			
neglect in care			
vi. supervision and people management			
include a focus on preventing abuse and			
neglect.			
h. Care Safety Principle 8: Staff and care			
workers should be equipped with the			
knowledge, skills and awareness to keep			
people in care safe through continuous			
education and training:			
i. staff and care workers receive training			
on the nature and signs of abuse and			
neglect in care			
ii. staff and care workers receive training			
on organisational and national abuse and			
neglect prevention policies and practices			
iii. staff and care workers are supported to			
develop practical skills in safeguarding			
children, young people and adults in care			
iv. staff and care workers have the			
appropriate cultural knowledge.			
i. Care Safety Principle 9: Processes to			
respond to complaints of abuse and			
neglect and neglect should respond			
appropriately to the person (e.g. child-			

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focused or young person-focused or adult			
in care-focused) in a timely manner:			
i. everyone in care and their whānau and			
support networks have access to			
information, decision-making supports to			
engage in complaints processes			
ii. care providers have complaint handling			
policies appropriate for the people in care			
which clearly outline roles and			
responsibilities, approaches for			
responding to complaints and obligations			
to act and report			
iii. effective complaints processes are			
understood by people in care, staff and			
volunteers and whanau and support			
networks and are culturally appropriate			
iv. complaints are taken seriously,			
responded to promptly and thoroughly,			
and reporting, privacy and employment			
law obligations are met.			
j. Care Safety Principle 10: Physical and			
online environments should minimise the			
opportunity for abuse and neglect to			
occur:			
i. risks in online and physical			
environments are mitigated whilst			
upholding the right to privacy and			
ensuring wellbeing of people in care			
ii. online environments are used in			
accordance with organisations' code of			
conduct.			
k. Care Safety Principle 11: Standards,			
policy and practice should be continuously			

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reviewed, including from time to time independently reviewed, and improved: i. care providers regularly review standards, policy and practice to prevent and improve responses to abuse and neglect in care ii. complaints and concerns are analysed to identify systemic issues, both within organisations and within the care system as a whole iii. people who are currently or have previously been in care are enabled to participate in reviews of standards, policy, practice. I. Care Safety Principle 12: Policies and procedures should document how each care provider will ensure that people in care are safe: i. safeguarding practice is prioritised and integrated throughout the organisation ii. policies and procedures embed safeguarding and abuse and neglect prevention measures policies and procedures are accessible and easy to understand iii. stakeholder consultation informs the development of policies and procedures iv. leaders champion and model compliance with policies and procedures v. staff and care workers understand and implement the policies and procedures.			

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Recommendation 50 The leaders of all State and faith-based entities providing care directly or indirectly should ensure there is effective oversight and leadership of safeguarding at the highest level, including at governance or trustee level where applicable.	Accept		CEO Report on delivery of Whanaketia recommendations to PSEC Board by November 2025.
Recommendation 51 The leaders of all State and faith-based entities providing care directly or indirectly should ensure that safeguarding is a genuine priority for the institution, key performance indicators are in place for senior leaders, and sufficient resources are available for all aspects of safeguarding.	Accept		Complete by July 2025 <u>CEO</u> Review, address any gaps in KPIs.
Recommendation 52 All State and faith-based entities providing care directly or indirectly should ensure they collect adequate data on abuse and neglect in care and regularly report to the governing bodies or leaders of each institution, based on that data, so they can carry out effective oversight of safeguarding.	Accept		Complete by July 2025 <u>GM Social Services</u> Review, address any gaps in KPIs.
Recommendation 53 The leaders of all State and faith-based entities providing care directly or indirectly should ensure staffing,	Accept		Complete by July 2025

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remuneration and resourcing levels are sufficient to ensure the effective implementation of safeguarding policies and procedures.			Review, address any gaps in KPIs.
Recommendation 54 The senior leaders of all State and faith- based entities providing care directly or indirectly to children, young people and adults should take active steps to create a positive safeguarding culture, including by: a. designating a safeguarding lead with sufficient seniority b. supporting the prevention, identification and disclosure of abuse and neglect c. ensuring the entity providing care directly or indirectly complies with its health and safety obligations d. protecting whistleblowers and those who make good-faith notifications e. ensuring accountability for those who fail to comply with safeguarding obligations f. prioritising and supporting training and professional development in safeguarding and in abuse and neglect in care including the topics set out in Recommendation 63 g. actively promoting a culture that values all children, young people and adults in	Accept		Complete by December 2025 Review policies and care settings CEO a, g, h, i, ,k,l GMSS b,j HR Manager c, d, e, f, j
care and addresses all forms of discrimination h . ensuring there are sufficient resources			

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for safeguarding i. identifying and correcting harmful attitudes and beliefs, such as the disbelief or mistrust of complainants or racist or ableist actions and beliefs j. ensuring there is adequate data collection and information on abuse and neglect in care, including relevant data on ethnicity and disability, to allow analysis and reporting k. learning from any incidents and allegations I. publicly reporting on the matters including any issues arising n relevant annual reports.			
Recommendation 55 All State and faith-based entities providing care directly or indirectly should have safeguarding policies and procedures in place that: a. are consistent with the Care Safety Principles (Recommendation 39) b. are consistent with the National Care Safety Strategy (Recommendation 40) c. are compliant with care safety rules and standards (Recommendation 47) d. are consistent with best practice guidelines issued by the Care Safe Agency e. are tailored to the risks of the particular organisation and care provided f. are clearly written g. are published in a readily accessible format	Accept in principle	System in place to ensure compliance – see Recommendation 39 Action Plan.	We will engage with developments of new Care Safety standards and legislation.

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 h. give effect to te Tiriti o Waitangi i. are culturally and linguistically appropriate j. are responsive to the needs of children, young people and adults in care, including Māori, Pacific Peoples, Deaf, disabled and people experiencing mental distress, and Takatāpui, Rainbow and MVPFAFF+ people k. are regularly reviewed, including periodic external reviews l. are audited for compliance, including periodic external audits. 			
Recommendation 56 All State and faith-based entities providing care directly or indirectly should have safeguarding policies and procedures that address, at a minimum: a. how the entity providing care directly or indirectly will protect children, young people and adults in care from harm b. how the entity providing care directly or indirectly will comply with the applicable standards and principles c. how people can make complaints about abuse and neglect to the entity, the Care Safe Agency or independent monitoring entities (Recommendation 65) d. how complaints, disclosures and incidents will be investigated and reported, including reporting to the Care Safe Agency, professional bodies or NZ Police and other authorities (Recommendation 65)	Accept	System in place to ensure compliance – see Recommendation 39 Action Plan.	

Recommendation	Response	Comments	Action Plan
 e. the protections available to whistleblowers and those making good faith notifications of abuse and neglect f. how the entity providing care directly or indirectly will use applicable information- sharing tools. g. how the entity will publicly and regularly report on these matters. 			
Recommendation 59 All State and faith-based entities providing care directly or indirectly to children, young people and adults in care should ensure all prospective staff, volunteers and any other person working with children, young people or adults in care ('prospective staff') have a satisfactory report from the applicable vetting regime and up to date registration status.	Accept		Complete by March 2025 <u>HR Manager</u> Review relevant policies: NZ Police vetting, driving licenses and professional registrations.
Recommendation 60 All State and faith-based entities providing care directly or indirectly to children, young people and adults in care should ensure their pre-employment screening checks include: a. thorough reference checks, including asking direct questions about any concerns about the applicant's suitability to work with children, young people or adults in care b. employment interviews that focus on determining the applicant's suitability to	Accept		Complete by March 2025 <u>HR Manager</u> Review relevant recruitment policies and procedures. Quarterly internal audit for all new employees.

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work with children, young people or adults in care c. critically examining an applicant's employment history and/or written application (for example to identify and seek an explanation for gaps in employment history, or to explain ambiguous responses to direct questions about criminal history) d. verifying the applicant's identity, education and qualifications e. assessing the ability of caregivers, including foster parents and volunteers, to build relationships and provide consistent, sensitive and responsive care, including being able to meet the cultural needs of the people they care for.			
Recommendation 62 All State and faith-based entities providing care directly or indirectly to children, young people and adults in care should recruit for and support a diverse workforce, including in leadership and governance roles, so far as practicable reflecting the care communities they serve and care for.	Accept		HR Manager by April 2025 Review relevant policies
Recommendation 63 All State and faith-based entities providing care directly or indirectly to children, young people and adults in care should ensure:	Accept in principle	We will engage with development of Care Safety Standards and Act	Complete by July 2025 <u>GM Social Services and HR Manager</u>

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a three basis and a free dust in stars			
a. they have a code of conduct in place,			Review all relevant policies and procedures.
which requires those providing care to			
comply with applicable safeguarding			
policies and procedures			<u>GM Social Services</u>
b. all staff, volunteers and any others			<u>d,e, f, g,h,j</u>
(ordained and non-ordained) working with			
children, young people or adults in care			HR Manager
("staff and care workers") receive an			a, b,c,k
induction promptly after they begin their			
employment and are aware of their			
safeguarding responsibilities including			
reporting obligations			
c. supervisors and people leaders have a			
safeguarding focus			
d. all staff receive training that ensures			
understanding about the Care Safety			
Principles (Recommendation 39), the			
National Care Safety Strategy			
(Recommendation 40), and all statutory			
requirements under the Care Safety Act			
(Recommendation 45), including care			
standards, accreditation and vetting			
e. all staff are trained and kept up to date			
in applicable safeguarding policies,			
procedures and practices			
f. all staff receive up to date training on			
how to identify and prevent abuse and			
neglect			
g. all staff are trained in appropriate			
trauma informed practice, disability			
informed practice, an understanding of			
neurodiversity, te Tiriti o Waitangi, Māori			
cultural practices, Pacific and ethnic			
cultural practices, human rights and an			

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understanding of abuse and neglect in care both historically and present-day h . all staff are trained to identify and address (in themselves and others) prejudice and all forms of discrimination i . all staff are provided with support, supervision, training and professional development on a frequent and regular basis, to ensure they are able to develop and maintain their capacity to provide reliable, sensitive and responsive care to the people they are looking after j . all staff receive appropriate professional development support, including how to protect children, young people and adults in care from abuse and neglect and respond to disclosures k . there are no adverse employment or other consequences for those making good faith notifications or disclosures of abuse and neglect.			
Recommendation 64 All State and faith-based entities providing care directly or indirectly to children, young people and adults in care should ensure that the same rules and standards in relation to vetting, registration, training and working conditions that apply to employees, apply equally to volunteers or others with equivalent access to children, young people and adults in care. Faith- based entities should ensure the same	Accept		Complete by April 2025 <u>HR Manager</u> Review all relevant policies and procedures. 6 monthly internal audit.

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rules apply to people in religious ministry			
and lay volunteers as to employees.			
Recommendation 65			
All State and faith-based entities providing	Accept in principle	System in place to ensure	Completed by July 2025
care directly or indirectly to children,		compliance – see	
young people and adults in care and		Recommendation 39 Action	GM Social Services
relevant professional registration bodies		Plan.	<u>a, b,f,g, h, l, j k, l ,m</u>
should ensure they have appropriate			
policies and procedures in place to			HR Manager
respond in a proportionate way to			<u>c, d,e,f, g,</u>
complaints, disclosures or incidents of			<u>-, -,-, 0</u>
abuse and neglect, including: a. the policies and procedures are guided			CEO
by the Care Safety Principles			m
(Recommendation 39) and any relevant			111
rules, standards or guidelines issued by			
the Care Safe Agency (Recommendation			
41)			
b. the policies and procedures are clearly			
written, accessible to people in care, their			
whānau and support networks, and to			
staff and care workers, and are kept up to			
date			
c. the policies, at a minimum, outline roles			
and responsibilities, how different types of			
complaints will be handled, including			
potential employment outcomes and			
reporting obligations			
d. the policies set out how actual or			
perceived conflicts of interest will be			
addressed if they arise			
e. there are clear protections in place for			
whistleblowers and those making good			

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faith notifications				
f. it is as easy as possible for people to				
make disclosures or complaints				
g. complaints processes are appropriate				
for Māori, Pacific People, Deaf and				
disabled people,				
people who experience mental distress				
and Takatāpui, Rainbow and MVPFAFF+				
people including ensuring there is access				
to appropriate support				
h. complainants are supported and kept				
informed throughout the handling of their				
complaint, including with the assistance of				
their independent advocates				
(Recommendation 76) if applicable				
i. complainants are kept safe throughout				
the handling of their complaint, including				
if they have complained about another				
person in care or a person who directly				
provides them care				
j. complaints are responded to promptly				
and robustly, including:				
i. as soon as a complaint is made, carrying				
out an initial risk assessment to identify				
the risks to the complainant and to other				
children, young people and adults in care				
ii. mitigating identified risks while the				
complaint is being investigated,				
proportionate to the seriousness of the				
allegation				
iii. continuing to investigate and report on				
complaints even if the subject of the				
complaint voluntarily leaves employment				
and/or cancels their professional				

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registration iv. carrying out a robust investigation at a level proportionate to the seriousness of the complaint v. applying a standard of proof consistent with civil law ("on the balance of probabilities") when investigating complaints, but doing so flexibly, proportionate to the seriousness of the allegation vi. using external investigators where appropriate for the most serious allegations vii. meeting all privacy and employment law obligations viii. ensuring appropriate accountability, including through reporting to NZ Police and relevant professional registration bodies if the complaint is substantiated (Recommendation 66) k. all complaints must be reported to the Care Safe Agency (Recommendation 41) regardless of the outcome of the investigation l. each complaint must be reviewed for	Response	Comments	Action Plan
Care Safe Agency (Recommendation 41) regardless of the outcome of the investigation I. each complaint must be reviewed for lessons identified and possible			
improvements m. publicly report annually on how many complaints they are dealing with, whether they have been resolved, whether they have been substantiated, and how long			
the complaint took to be resolved.			

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Recommendation 66 Where a complaint has been substantiated, State and faith-based entities providing care directly or indirectly and relevant professional bodies should take steps to ensure the person or people responsible are held accountable, including: a. professional disciplinary action b. reporting to the relevant professional registration body or bodies c. reporting to the Care Safe Agency d. reporting to NZ Police e. reporting in accordance with any other applicable information sharing or mandatory reporting obligations.	Accept	System in place to ensure compliance – see Recommendation 39 Action Plan. Updated Polices and procedures will include recommendation 66.	Completed by April 2025 HR Manager Review relevant police and procedures. Establish and manage PSEC's Complaint management central system.
Recommendation 67 All State and faith-based entities providing care directly or indirectly and relevant professional registration bodies should report all complaints, disclosures, or incidents to the Care Safe Agency, whether substantiated or not substantiated following investigation.	Accept	PSEC will be complying with the Care Safety Agency system, once established.	
Recommendation 75 All State and faith-based entities providing direct or indirect care to children, young people and adults should review physical building and design features to identify and address elements that may place children, young people	Accept		Completed by July 2025 <u>GM Social Services</u> Review a-d and report.

and adults in care at risk of abuse and neglect. This should include: a. consideration of how best to use technology such as CCTV cameras and body cameras without unduly infringing personal privacy, including taking into account any applicable guidance documents and the legal requirements for the collection of personal information under the Privacy Act 2020 b. reviewing any policies or processes that place children, young people, or adults in care with cothers who may put them at risk (for example, children and young people in care and protection being place datagether with children, young people, or adults in the justice system) c. if care settings include physically isolated spaces, for example private offices or a confessional box, ensuring there are tailored measures in place to address the risks arising, including the risk of undetected abuse and neglect. Recommendation 78 All State and faith-based entities providing care directly or indirectly	Recommendation	Response	Comments	Action Plan
neglect. This should include: a. consideration of how best to use technology such as CCTV concersa and body cameras without unduly infringing personal privacy, including taking into account any applicable guidance documents and the legal requirements for the collection of personal information under the Privacy Act 2020 b. reviewing any policies or processes that place children, young people, or adults in care with c others who may put them at risk (for example, children and young people, or adults in the justice system) c. if care settings include physically isolated spaces, for example private offices or a confessional box, ensuring there are tailored measures in place to address the risks and neglect d. if care is to be delivered in a geographically isolated or remote are, ensuring there are tailored measures in place to address the risks and ing. Including the risk of undetected abuse and neglect. d. f care is to be delivered in a geographical setting, including the risk of undetected abuse and neglect. Recommendation 78 All State and faith-bas	and adults in some strick of shuse and			
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providing care directly or indirectly	All State and faith-based entities	Accept		Completed by July 2025
	providing care directly or indirectly	- 1-		
should seek the best possible GM Social Services	should seek the best possible			GM Social Services

Recommendation	Response	Comments	Action Plan
understanding of the background, culture, needs and vulnerabilities of every child, young person, and adult in their care, and should include the protection and enhancement of the mana and mauri of Māori in care.			Review care plans for inclusion of Recommendations 78.
Recommendation 79 The government and all relevant decision-makers should review existing policy, standards, and practice to ensure that all involuntary care placements are suitable and support connection to whānau and community. This includes placements being located as close as reasonably practicable to the family or whānau of the children, young person, or adult in care	Accept	We work in partnership with relevant decision makers for each client.	<u>GMSS</u> by July 2025 Review relevant policies
Recommendation 80 All State and faith-based entities providing care directly or indirectly should review existing policies and practice to ensure they promote and support the maintenance of connections and attachment to family and whānau wherever possible and appropriate	Accept	We work in partnership with relevant decision makers for each client.	Complete by July 2025 <u>GM Social Services</u> Review relevant policies to ensure it is explicit in our policies.
Recommendation 81 All State and faith-based entities directly or indirectly providing care to children, young people, Deaf people, disabled people, and people who experience	Accept		Complete by March 2025 Review that the system is in place to comply with recommendation 81

Recommendation	Response	Comments	Action Plan
mental distress should adopt and comply			
with best practice guidelines for record			GM Social Services
keeping and data sovereignty, including			
the following principles:			<u>a,b,c,d</u>
a. Record-keeping Principle 1: To create			
and keep full and accurate records.			
Creating and keeping full and accurate			HR Manager
records relevant to safety and wellbeing is			<u>e</u>
in the best interests of children, young			
people or adults in care and should be an			
integral part of institutional leadership,			
governance, and culture. Institutions that			
care for or provide services to children,			
young people or adults in care must keep			
the best interests of the child uppermost			
in all aspects of their conduct, including			
recordkeeping. It is in the best interest of			
children, young people, or adults in care			
that institutions foster a culture in which			
the creation and management of accurate			
records, including detailed information			
about ethnicity and impairments, are			
integral parts of the institution's			
operations and governance.			
b. Record-keeping Principle 2: Records to			
include all incidents and responses.			
Full and accurate records should be			
created about all incidents, responses and			
decisions affecting the safety and			
wellbeing, including abuse and neglect in			
care, of children, young people, or adults			
in care. Institutions should ensure that			
records are created to document any			
identified incidents of grooming,			

Recommendation	Response	Comments	Action Plan
inappropriate behaviour (including			
breaches of institutional codes of conduct)			
or abuse and neglect in care and all			
responses to such incidents. Records			
created by institutions should be clear,			
objective, and thorough. They should be			
created at, or as close as possible to, the			
time the incidents occurred, and clearly			
show the author (whether individual or			
institutional) and the date created.			
c. Record-keeping Principle 3: Records to			
be maintained in an indexed, logical and			
secure manner.			
Records relevant to the safety and			
wellbeing of children, young people or			
adults in care, including			
abuse and neglect in care, should be			
maintained appropriately and in an			
indexed, logical and secure manner.			
Associated records should be co-located			
or cross-referenced to ensure that people			
using those records are aware of all			
relevant information.			
d. Record-keeping Principle 4: Records			
only be disposed of in accordance with			
law or policy.			
Records relevant to the safety and			
wellbeing, including abuse and neglect in			
care, of children, young people or adults			
in care should only be disposed of in			
accordance with law or policy. Records			
relevant to the safety and wellbeing,			
including abuse and neglect in care, of			
children, young people or adults in care			

Recommendation	Response	Comments	Action Plan
must only be destroyed in accordance			
with records disposal schedules or			
published institutional policies. Records			
relevant to abuse and neglect in care			
should be subject to minimum retention			
periods that allow for delayed disclosure			
of abuse and neglect by victims and			
survivors and take account of limitation			
periods for civil actions for abuse and			
neglect in care.			
e. Record-keeping Principle 5: Individuals'			
rights to access, amend or annotate			
records about themselves to be			
recognised to the fullest extent			
Individuals' existing rights to access,			
amend or annotate records about			
themselves should be recognised to the			
fullest extent including in a way that is			
compliant with the Convention on the			
Rights of Persons with Disabilities.			
Individuals whose childhoods are			
documented in records held by all entities			
providing care directly or indirectly should			
have a right to access records made about			
them. Full access should be given unless			
contrary to law. This includes the right to			
access records without redaction. Specific,			
not generic, explanations should be			
provided in any case where a record, or			
part of a record, is withheld or redacted.			
Consent of the person who is currently or			
was previously in care should be			
proactively sought if information needs to			
be shared with family members.			

Recommendation	Response	Comments	Action Plan
Recommendation 82 All State and faith-based entities providing care directly or indirectly to children, young people or adults should, together with the person in care, document an account of their life during their time in care.	Accept		Complete by October 2025 <u>GM Social Services</u> Review care plan for inclusion of Recommendation 82.
Recommendation 83 All State and faith-based entities providing care directly or indirectly to children, young people or adults should be required to retain records relating to alleged abuse and neglect in care for at least 75 years in a separate central register, to allow for delayed disclosure and redress claims or civil litigation.	Accept		Complete by July 2025 <u>GM Social Services</u> Establish and manage central register for alleged abuse and neglect in care; retain for 75 years.
Recommendation 89 All faith-based entities that provide activities or services of any kind, under the auspices of a particular religious denomination or faith, through which adults have contact with children, young people or adults in care, should comply with the Care Safety Principles (Recommendation 39), the National Care Safety Strategy (Recommendation 40) and all statutory requirements under the Care Safety Act (Recommendation 41), including care standards, accreditation and vetting. Faith-based entities in highly	Accept in principle		PSEC will be engaging with new Care Safety Acts when in place. PSEC is not under the auspices of particular religious denomination. It is an independent legal entity.

Recommendation	Response	Comments	Action Plan
regulated sectors, such as schools and out-of-home care service providers, should also report their compliance to the religious organisation to which they are affiliated.			
Recommendation 90 All faith-based entities should adopt the Care Safety Principles (Recommendation 39), the National Care Safety Strategy (Recommendation 40) and all statutory requirements under the Care Safety Act (Recommendation 41), including care standards, accreditation, and vetting, for each of their affiliated institutions.	Accept in principle		
Recommendation 91 All faith-based entities should drive a consistent approach to the implementation of the Care Safety Principles (Recommendation 39), the National Care Safety Strategy (Recommendation 40) and all statutory requirements under the Care Safety Act (Recommendation 41), including care standards, accreditation, and vetting, in each of their affiliated institutions.	Accept in principle		PSEC will engage with the developments of the Care Safety Act.
Recommendation 92 All faith-based entities should work closely with the independent Care Safe Agency and independent oversight bodies to support the implementation of	Accept in principle		PSEC will engage with the developments of the Care Safety Act

Recommendation	Response	Comments	Action Plan
and compliance with the Care Safety Principles (Recommendation 39), the National Care Safety Strategy (Recommendation 40), and all statutory requirements under the Care Safety Act (Recommendation 41), including care standards, accreditation, and vetting, in each of their affiliated institutions.			
Recommendation 93 All faith-based entities should ensure their religious leaders are provided with leadership training both pre- and post- appointment, including identifying, preventing, and responding to abuse and neglect in care, cultural awareness, and addressing prejudice and all forms of discrimination.	Accept in principle	It is for the churches to accept and act on the recommendation.	
Recommendation 94 All faith-based entities should ensure that religious leaders are accountable to an appropriate authority or body, such as a board of management or council, for the decisions they make with respect to preventing and responding to abuse and neglect in care.	Accept	It is for the churches to accept and act on the recommendation.	
Recommendation 95 All faith-based entities should ensure that all people in religious or pastoral ministry, including religious leaders, are subject to effective management and	Accept in principle	It is for the churches to accept and act on the recommendation.	

Recommendation	Response	Comments	Action Plan
oversight and undertake annual			
performance appraisals.			
Recommendation 96 All faith-based entities should ensure that all people in religious or pastoral ministry, including religious leaders, have professional supervision with a trained professional or pastoral supervisor who has a degree of independence from the institution within which the person is in ministry.	Accept in principle	It is for the churches to accept and act on the recommendation.	
Recommendation 97 Each faith-based entity should have a policy relating to the management of actual or perceived conflicts of interest that may arise in relation to allegations of abuse and neglect in care. The policy should cover all individuals who have a role in responding to complaints of abuse and neglect in care.	Accept		Complete by July 2025 <u>CEO</u> Develop specific policy.
Recommendation 98 Each faith-based entity should ensure that candidates for religious ministry undertake minimum training on preventing and responding to abuse and neglect in care and related matters, including training that: a. equips candidates with an understanding of the Care Safety Principles (Recommendation 39), the	Accept in principle	It is for the churches to accept and act on the recommendation.	

Recommendation	Response	Comments	Action Plan
National Care Safety Strategy (Recommendation 40), and all statutory requirements under the Care Safety Act (Recommendation 45), including care standards, accreditation and vetting b. educates candidates on: i. professional responsibility, boundaries and ethics in ministry ii. identifying and preventing abuse and neglect in care iii. cultural awareness iv. addressing prejudice and all forms of discrimination v. policies regarding appropriate responses to allegations or complaints of abuse and neglect in care, and how to implement these policies vi. how to work with children, young people, and adults in care.			
Recommendation 99 Each faith-based entity should require that all people in religious or pastoral ministry, including religious leaders, undertake regular training on the institution's safeguarding policies and procedures. They should also be provided with opportunities for external training on best practice approaches to people safety.	Accept in principle	It is for the churches to accept and act on the recommendation.	
Recommendation 100 Wherever a faith-based entity has children, young people, or adults in its care, they should be provided with age-	Accept in principle		

Recommendation	Response	Comments	Action Plan
appropriate prevention education that aims to increase their knowledge of abuse and neglect and build practical skills to assist in strengthening self- protective skills and strategies. Prevention education in religious institutions should specifically address the power and status of people in religious ministry and educate children, young people, and adults in care that no one has a right to invade their privacy and make them feel unsafe.		It is for the churches to accept and act on the recommendation.	
Recommendation 101 All faith-based entities should revise their policies to reduce high barriers to disclosure including through flexibility for disclosures of abuse.	Accept		Complete by July 2025 <u>GM Social Services</u> Review policies for disclosure.
Recommendation 102 Each faith-based entity should make provision for family and community involvement by publishing all policies relevant to preventing and responding to abuse and neglect in care on its website, providing opportunities for comment, and seeking periodic feedback about the effectiveness of its approach to preventing and responding to abuse and neglect in care.	Accept in principle		Complete by July 2025 <u>GM Social Services</u> Consider publishing relevant policies on website.

Recommendation	Response	Comments	Action Plan
Recommendation 103 All faith-based entities' complaint handling policies should require that, upon receiving a complaint of abuse and neglect in care, an initial risk assessment is conducted to identify and minimise any risks to children, young people, and adults in care.	Accept		Complete by March 2025 <u>GM Social Services & HR Manager</u> Review Complaints policies to include immediate risk assessment requirement across services and corporate.
Recommendation 104 All faith-based entities' complaint handling policies should require that, if a complaint of abuse and neglect in care against a person in religious ministry is credible, and there is a risk that person may encounter children in the course of their ministry, the person be stood down from ministry while the complaint is investigated.		Agree in principle. It is for the churches to accept and act on the recommendation.	
Recommendation 105 All faith-based entities should, when deciding whether a complaint of abuse and neglect in care has been substantiated, consider the principles set out by the courts in applicable case law in accordance with the seriousness of the allegation.	Accept	We work from likelihood now for current and historic disclosures. If current, we would report to the authorities directly, eg. NZ Police.	
Recommendation 106			

Recommendation	Response	Comments	Action Plan
All faith-based entities should apply the same standards for investigating complaints of abuse and neglect in care, whether or not the subject of the complaint is a person in religious ministry.	Accept		
Recommendation 107 Any person in religious ministry who is the subject of a complaint of abuse and neglect in care which is substantiated on the balance of probabilities, applied flexibly according to the seriousness of the allegation in accordance with the principles set out by the courts in applicable caselaw, or who is convicted of an offence relating to abuse and neglect in care, should be permanently removed from ministry. Members of the Church should be notified of the persons permanent removal from ministry. Faith- based entities should also take all necessary steps to effectively prohibit the person from in any way holding himself or herself out as being a person with religious authority.	Accept in principle	It is for the churches to comment further on	
Recommendation 108 Any person in religious ministry who is convicted of an offence relating to abuse and neglect in care should: a. in the case of Catholic priests and religious, be dismissed from the priesthood and/or dispensed from his or	Accept in principle	This is for each church to comment on.	

Recommendation	Response	Comments	Action Plan
her vows as a religious b. in the case of Anglican clergy, be deposed from holy orders c. in the case of an ordained person in any other religious denomination that has a concept of ordination, holy orders and/or vows, be dismissed, deposed, or otherwise effectively have their religious status removed.			
Recommendation 109 Where a faith-based entity becomes aware that any person attending any of its religious services or activities is the subject of a substantiated complaint of abuse and neglect in care, or has been convicted of an offence relating to abuse and neglect in care, the faith-based entity should: a. assess the level of risk posed to children, young people, and adults in care by that perpetrator's ongoing involvement in the religious community b. take appropriate steps to manage that risk.	Accept in principle	It is for each church and affiliated faith-based entity to comment on.	
Recommendation 110 Each faith-based entity should consider establishing a national register which records limited but sufficient information to assist affiliated institutions to identify and respond to any risks to children, young people and adults in care that may	Reject	The formal register should be established by an independent statutory entity.	

Recommendation	Response	Comments	Action Plan
be posed by people in religious or pastoral ministry.			
Recommendation 113 The government and faith-based entities should disseminate and publicise the findings and Recommendations of this Inquiry in the widest and most transparent manner possible.	Accept		Recommendations and PSEC response will be publicly available before 24 November 2024.
Recommendation 125 The government and faith-based institutions should take any and all actions required to give effect to the Inquiry's Recommendations set out in this report and the Holistic Redress Recommendations in He Purapura Ora, he Māra Tipu: From Redress to Puretumu Torowhānui, including changes to investment, public policy, legislation or regulations, operational practice or guidelines.		We would need more understanding on what is required before we confirm our position.	
Recommendation 126 The State and faith-based entities should partner with iwi to give effect to te Tiriti o Waitangi and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in relation to researching, designing, piloting, implementing and evaluating the Inquiry's Recommendations to ensure that the	Accept in principle	We would engage in this work to provide best practice service delivery.	

Recommendation	Response	Comments	Action Plan
Recommendations are implemented in a manner that: a. reflects the rights, experiences and needs of Māori in care b. embeds the right to tino rangatiratanga over their kāinga guaranteed to Māori in te Tiriti o Waitangi			
Recommendation 127 Government and faith-based entities should research, design, pilot, implement and evaluate the Inquiry's Recommendations through co-design with communities, including children, young people and adults in care, survivors, Māori, Pacific Peoples, culturally and linguistically diverse communities, Deaf and disabled people, people who experience mental distress, and Takatāpui, Rainbow and MVPFAFF+ people, to ensure that reforms: a. reflect the rights, experiences and needs of people in care b. reflect the diversity of affected communities c. are tailored to reach, engage and provide access to all communities.	Accept in principle	We have taken on board and acknowledge this recommendation subject to further consideration.	
Recommendation 130 The government and faith-based institutions should publish their responses to this report and the Inquiry's interim reports on whether they accept	Accept in principle	Accepted in principle, unsure what does "publish"	Recommendations and PSEC response will be publicly available before 24 November 2024.

Recommendation	Response	Comments	Action Plan
each of the Inquiry's findings in whole or in part, and the reasons for any disagreement. The responses should be published within two months of this report being tabled in the House of Representatives.		represent. Timeframe of 2 months is too short.	
Recommendation 131 The government and faith-based institutions should issue formal public responses to this report about whether each Recommendation is accepted, accepted in principle, rejected or subject to further consideration. Each response should include a plan for how the accepted Recommendations will be implemented, the reasons for rejecting any Recommendations, and a timeframe for any further consideration required. Each response should be published within four months of this report being tabled in the House of Representatives.	Accept		Recommendations and PSEC response will be publicly available before 24 November 2024.
Recommendation 133 The government, faith-based institutions and any other agencies that implement the Inquiry's Recommendations should: a. publicly report on the implementation of the Inquiry's Recommendations contained in the final report and all previous interim reports, including the implementation status of each Recommendation and any identified issues and risks	Accept		By August 2025 <u>CEO</u> Report on implementation plan via agreed publishing channels.

Recommendation	Response	Comments	Action Plan
 publish the implementation report annually for at least 9 years, commencing 12 months after the tabling of this report in the House of Representatives and provide a copy to the Care System Office and Care Safe Agency. 			
Recommendation 135 The government and faith-based entities should implement the Inquiry's Recommendations within the timeframes described in this report, whilst ensuring there is open and transparent communication with communities with whom they are co-designing the future arrangements for care.	Accept in principle	Subject to compliance resource availability.	We have developed and published the plan and will do our best to adhere with the timelines and KPIs. This will be reported publicly every 12 months.
Recommendation 138 The government and faith-based institutions should publish formal responses to the independent 9-year review, indicating whether its advice on further steps is accepted, accepted in principle, rejected or subject to further consideration. Each response should include a plan for how the accepted Recommendations will be implemented, the reasons for rejecting any Recommendations, and a timeframe for any further consideration required. Each response should be published by 31 December 2033.	Accept in principle		We have developed and published the plan and will do our best to adhere with the timelines and KPIs.