

Hon James Meager

Minister for the South Island
Minister for Hunting and Fishing
Minister for Youth
Associate Minister of Transport



29 JUN 2026

Ann Dunphy MNZM

JMC-1828

Dear Ann,

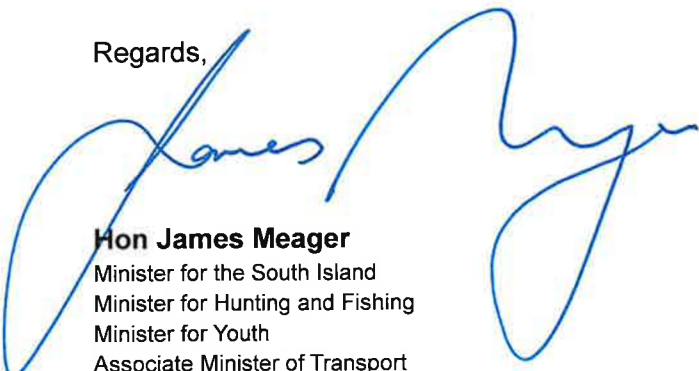
Thank you for taking the time to meet on Wednesday 13 May 2026. I enjoyed hearing from you, Joy, and James about the work you do in the sector, the value of youth mentoring, and the steps that the New Zealand Youth Mentoring Network is taking to strengthen the youth mentoring evidence base for the sector.

Young people have a vast range of opportunities, challenges, and uncertainties in today's rapidly evolving world. Ensuring all young people have opportunities to succeed academically, economically, and socially is key to continuing to build a strong and resilient New Zealand.

As Minister for Youth, I recognise the value of high-quality mentoring relationships for young people. Non-familial mentors can, and do, play a key role in assisting young people to reach their full potential in education, employment, and life in general. It's clear that positive role models can offer inspiration, guidance, and motivation at key points in a young person's journey, supporting them to build confidence, increase their self-esteem, and make good decisions.

Quality mentoring gives young people not just guidance, but the capability and resilience to shape positive futures for themselves and others. Thank you for the meaningful work you do providing training, guidance, and resources to the youth mentoring sector and youth workers in New Zealand, so they in turn can support young people to thrive.

Regards,



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