

# WHĀNAU ORA REVIEW

## RELEASE OF THE REPORT – TIPU MĀTORO KI TE AO

### FAQs

#### Release of the Report

#### 1. Who else has seen the report?

The report has been shared with each of the Commissioning Agencies and a number of Ministers and their respective agencies. The Minister for Whānau Ora, Peeni Henare and officials from Te Puni Kōkiri will continue to engage with all these interest groups, to scope and progress options for the future of Whānau Ora.

#### 2. What does the report say?

The high level findings of the report are that:

- the Whānau Ora Commissioning approach results in positive change for whānau and creates the conditions for the change to be sustainable;
- the Whānau Ora Commissioning Approach operates within and meets the requirements of, a structured accountability system and operates in a transparent manner;
- Whānau Ora and whānau-centred approaches demonstrate a number of features that align closely with success factors identified in recent reports on good social investment. The Panel were of the view that there is the potential for whānau centred approaches to be applied more widely across government;
- a number of challenges and improvements were identified in the Whānau Ora Commissioning approach and environment.

#### 3. What are your views on the report findings?

##### *Affirmation of approach*

The most compelling finding of the report is its affirmation of the Whānau Ora approach, as an approach that works.

The Whānau Ora commissioning model and the whānau centred approach results in positive, sustainable change in the lives of whānau, furthermore, Whānau Ora meets its accountability requirements and is transparent.

This finding therefore creates the platform for other findings regarding greater investment from government and increased collaboration across agencies to expand its implementation.

Te Puni Kōkiri is already working with other agencies in the social sector to assess further the policy implications of these findings and will report back to Cabinet by July 2019.

##### *Suggested improvements*

Additionally, there are a number of findings concerning suggested improvements which Te Puni Kōkiri is already actioning. For instance, the development of the Whānau Ora

story and promotional initiatives is already under way and Te Puni Kōkiri will hold a summit in March to share information and learnings from its whānau development work aimed at increasing the adoption of whānau centred approaches.

#### *More scoping and discussion*

The two findings which propose exploration of localised commissioning approaches and addressing strategic governance matters including the needs of Pasifika do require more scoping.

More importantly however, these aspects of the report require wider discussion with a range of groups across the Whānau Ora system. The Minister will report back to Cabinet on these two areas by July.

#### *Reference Group*

A Whānau Ora reference group will be established to provide the Minister with independent advice on the operations of Whānau Ora and the implications of proposed change.

#### **4. So does this mean Te Puni Kōkiri endorses the findings and will implement them?**

Decisions about the future of Whānau Ora are subject to further engagement and discussions with a range of stakeholders, agencies and interest groups.

The findings of the report provide a strong case for further policy exploration into the extent and sustainability of change reported by whānau engaged in this phase of Whānau Ora, and the efficacy of the whānau centred approach.

Te Puni Kōkiri will seek the input of other agencies to assess and analyse all the findings of the report with a view to providing robust, evidence based policy advice that'll inform the future direction of Whānau Ora.

This work, will be completed by July.

#### **5. So what happens with Whānau Ora in the meantime?**

The current arrangements for Whānau Ora, that is, our contractual commitments with the Commissioning Agencies and the delivery of Whānau Ora services remain.

#### **6. What is whānau-centred policy?**

Whānau centred policy is policy which agencies develop to help reframe the way they provide social services. Existing frameworks are directed at supporting individuals, and typically these frameworks won't consider a person's living context or relationship context, and the degree to which their wider living environment either supports or inhibits transformation. The Whānau Ora approach – based on Māori notions of identity and being part of a collective - recognises that these other contexts impact on an individual's ability to make, and sustain, positive change.

So in order for agencies to adopt the whānau ora approach, they need to first understand how the approach can work for them – hence the need to develop whānau-centred policy to ensure they apply the approach appropriately.

## 7. What is the commissioning approach?

Whānau Ora is delivered through a commissioning for outcomes approach, known as the commissioning model.

This delivery model uses non-government organisations called Commissioning Agencies to invest in whānau wellbeing and development. They are;

- Te Pou Matakana for the North Island....
- Te Pūtahitanga o Te Waipounamu for the South Island....and
- Pasifika Futures for Pasifika families across Aotearoa...

The commissioning process is relational it relies on the Commissioning Agencies setting the strategic objectives for three year periods and then setting annual investment plans describing how the strategic objectives will be met. All of these processes require negotiation and agreement between the Commissioning Agency and Te Puni Kōkiri.

Each commissioning agency invest in slightly different initiatives within their communities. The only consistent thing across each of them is the investment in to Whānau Ora Navigators.