

## HEI WHAKATAU | BRIEFING

### Update: Strategic Reset of Whānau Ora

<b>Date:</b>	29 April 2024	<b>Priority</b>	Medium
<b>Classification</b>	In Confidence	<b>Tracking Number</b>	48560

Recommendations	Due Date
<div>9(2)(g)(i)</div> <div>Proactively released</div>	1 May 2024
viii. <b>Forward</b> a copy of this briefing to the Minister for Social Investment. <b>YES / NO</b>	

Contact for telephone discussion (if required)				
Name	Position	Telephone	Mobile	1 <sup>st</sup> contact
Grace Smit	Deputy Secretary, Regional Partnerships and Operations		9(2)(a)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Paula Rawiri	Deputy Secretary, Policy Partnerships		9(2)(a)	



Other Agencies Consulted					
<input type="checkbox"/> MBIE	<input type="checkbox"/> MoJ	<input type="checkbox"/> NZTE	<input type="checkbox"/> MSD	<input type="checkbox"/> TEC	<input type="checkbox"/> MoE
<input type="checkbox"/> MFAT	<input type="checkbox"/> MPI	<input type="checkbox"/> MfE	<input type="checkbox"/> DIA	<input type="checkbox"/> Treasury	<input type="checkbox"/> MoH
<input type="checkbox"/> MHUD	<input type="checkbox"/> Other				

Minister's office to complete:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Approved             | <input type="checkbox"/> Declined            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Noted                | <input type="checkbox"/> Needs change        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Seen                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Overtaken by Events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> See Minister's Notes | <input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn           |

Comments:

Proactively released

29 April 2024

Minister for Whānau Ora

## **Update: Strategic Reset of Whānau Ora**

### **Purpose**

1. This paper seeks your confirmation of the work programme for the strategic reset of Whānau Ora and provides an update on key workstreams for your noting.

### **Background**

2. On 21 March 2024, we provided you with a briefing on a strategic reset of Whānau Ora (48367 refers). We sought your agreement to meet to confirm the proposed work programme. Following agreement on this briefing, on 9 April 2024 you met with officials to discuss the reset and provided further direction.

### **Summary of 9 April Meeting and proposed Ministerial Actions**

3. At the 9 April discussion, you provided us with direction that was broadly consistent with the proposed workstreams outlined in the 21 March *Strategic Review of Whānau Ora* paper (Ref 48367). Moreover, you emphasised that:
  - a. Whānau Ora is uniquely positioned to be a flagship exemplar of your Government's focus on social investment and ought to be the 'go to' model for supporting whānau and communities in need.
  - b. skilled data application is central to the success of social investment methodology and therefore must be enhanced within Whānau Ora.

9(2)(g)(i)

Out of scope

4. Based on that discussion, we have summarised the status of each proposed workstream as follows:

- a. **Resetting Whānau Ora Commissioning**

Confirmed in 9 April discussion as a priority.

- b. **Advancing data management and investment methodology**

Confirmed in 9 April discussion as a priority, focusing on social investment.

9(2)(g)(i)

9(2)(g)(i)

5. Based on the 9 April discussion, this briefing provides updates below on progress to date towards resetting Whānau Ora, across key workstreams. There are several Ministerial actions sought across the workstreams. For your convenience these are summarised in the Next Steps section of this briefing, for your consideration.

#### **A. Resetting Whānau Ora Commissioning Update**

6. Te Puni Kōkiri has, this month, now confirmed one year only extensions with all three commissioning entities. This secures existing services until 30 June 2025. Further to this we have informed these entities of the intention to run an open procurement process for services delivered post that date. As anticipated, the three entities do not necessarily consider this their preferred option, however we will continue to work closely with them to manage changes.

9(2)(g)(i)

#### *Next Steps and Your Role*

8. We are working with the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) on developing the revised procurement process. We still expect to complete the redesign by 30 June, call for tenders by 30 September, and make selections by 31 December 2024, allowing for services to be readied by 1 July 2025.

9(2)(g)(i)

11. As previously advised you will not be involved in the selection process of commissioning entities. 9(2)(g)(i)

## B. Data Management and Social Investment Update

12. Te Puni Kōkiri understands the heightened focus on social investment means being able to demonstrate a fiscally positive social and economic return on investment from all public funds committed to Whānau Ora.
13. As you will recall, there is an existing body of evidence on the value of Whānau Ora already, including independent validation from the Office of the Auditor-General. Notwithstanding, there is scope for this to be enhanced particularly in relation to the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI) overseen by Statistics NZ. In simple terms, for every dollar invested in Whānau Ora, we understand the Government expects to be able to see a demonstrably positive return in the wellbeing of citizens that is externally recognisable and shown in internationally credible data. For this to occur, after 1 July 2025 Whānau Ora is proposed to evolve to integrate anonymised data to the IDI to be drawn upon using the social investment expertise of the Social Wellbeing Agency (SWA). This is not a requirement of the current contractual arrangements and will therefore be a new feature within the procurement process.

*Other data matters of significance*

9(2)(g)(i)

*Next Steps and Your Role*

9(2)(g)(i)

9(2)(g)(i)

9(2)(g)(i)

9(2)(g)(i)

22. Te Puni Kōkiri has already been working with other government agencies to establish a shared understanding of whānau-centred approaches (of which Whānau Ora is one), including identifying the capability uplift required across the system to support agencies to make better use of these approaches. Through this work, Te Puni Kōkiri officials are developing tools, guidance and other support with participating agencies.

9(2)(g)(i)

*Next Steps and Your Role*

9(2)(g)(i)

#### D. Agency Oversight Update

26. As you know, since conception Te Puni Kōkiri has been the sole agency with oversight of Whānau Ora commissioning entities. Since the disestablishment of the Whānau Ora Partnership Board in 2017, we have largely undertaken this role alone (albeit with some informal guidance from the Pou Tangata Iwi Chairs Forum). Beyond Whānau Ora, more broadly Te Puni Kōkiri is focused on trialling and demonstrating initiatives, which are then rolled out into larger agencies. This has not occurred with Whānau Ora.

9(2)(g)(i)

9(2)(g)(i)

#### *Next Steps and Your Role*

9(2)(g)(i)

#### **Consultation**

29. Officials from Te Puni Kōkiri have consulted with officials at the Social Wellbeing Agency on this briefing.

#### **Next Steps**

9(2)(g)(i)

9(2)(g)(i)

31. We will continue to provide you with regular updates via the Weekly Report, and orally as a standing item at weekly Officials meetings.



Grace Smit  
Hautū, Te Puni Rangapū ā-Rohe me Whakahaere  
Deputy Secretary, Regional Partnerships and Operations

Hon Tama Potaka  
Minita mō Whānau Ora

Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / 2024



## Appendix One: Whānau Ora - Salient Features

- a. Whānau Ora services were to begin with Whānau aspirations, and an internal desire to make lifestyle improvement choices for themselves. I.e. not a service 'done to' whānau, but rather a form of supported co-design led by whānau participants.
- b. Whānau Ora was to be strengths-based. I.e. focused on the positive and what was working well for whānau and expanding that as the primary means to diminish other matters (as opposed to being services centred on resolving singular negative issues).
- c. The seven Whānau Ora outcome areas were seen as intertwined, each contributing to the others; and all were based on values from te ao Māori. 9(2)(g)(i)

9(2)(g)(i)

- d. Whānau Ora was primarily said to be a 'by Māori for Māori' initiative (those exact words). The framework was designed by Māori to work for Māori whānau, drawing upon Māori knowledge and ways of being. It was not designed generically, for all peoples.
- e. Linked to the above Whānau Ora was strongly centred on cultural wellbeing. 9(2)(g)(i)  
9(2)(g)(i)  
Building cultural strength was seen as essential, adding to whānau resilience and whānau hinengaroa oranga (mental wellbeing).
- f. Despite being designed 'for Māori by Māori'; Whānau Ora was also non-exclusive and available to all who might benefit from it, including non-Māori. From a mainstream perspective this may present as counterfactual, but from a Māori perspective this inclusivity aligned with the original values that formed Whānau Ora. I.e. there was an openness to share a whānau-centred approach to wellbeing, and others were welcome to draw upon it and use it if it assisted their communities. This perspective is what led a commissioning agency focused on Pacific People's wellbeing.