

Board meeting summary



Summary of Board meeting no. 5

22 April 2021

Agenda items approved

Several establishment policies and plans were discussed and were approved:

- Interim framework for engaging with priority groups and populations
- Interim Information Services Strategic Plan and an approach to managing the plan and implementation
- Sensitive expenditure framework
- Travel and expenses policy
- Interim risk matrix and plan for managing risk, and
- the establishment, membership, and Terms of Reference for an Appointment and Remuneration Committee, under the authority of the Board.

The Board also agreed to publish the Commission's submission on the Ministry of Health Mental Wellbeing Long-Term Pathway.

Agenda items noted and discussed

The Board considered a significant paper on the drafting of the He Ara Āwhina service monitoring framework (He Ara Āwhina). This framework will underpin the Commission's function of monitoring and reporting on mental health and addiction services – a responsibility transferred from the Office of the Health and Disability Commissioner. The Commission will publish a service monitoring report this calendar year to keep up continuity of reporting.

At the same time, the Commission will continue to develop He Ara Āwhina to be a monitoring framework that supports the wider scope of the Commission's work, maintains continuity, and connects to the He Ara Oranga wellbeing outcomes framework [the framework that the Commission will use to measure the wellbeing of all people in Aotearoa New Zealand]. The Commission will also publish a summary paper from the co-design phase of He Ara Āwhina.

The Board considered two information papers that will be a resource for the development of the Commission's Strategy. The first was about what people had

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said in interviews conducted by the Initial Commission about their expectations for the Commission. The second information paper set out ideas, workshops, and advice developed by the Initial Commission. The advice of the Initial Commission will be used as a starting point for some future workshops.

Operationally, one of the key focus areas is recruitment of Commission staff. The financial reports show the expected underspend for this financial year. A report on Statement of Performance Expectations outputs was also considered. There are no delivery risks at this stage, but there are organisational risks associated with setting up the new organisation and becoming established.

Guests and presentations

Guests were Kevin Allan, former Mental Health Commissioner, and Morag McDowell, Health and Disability Commissioner. A good discussion was held to pass on lessons learned and how the two Commissions can work together. There was shared optimism about the outcomes of the Health and Disability Sector Review, and shared concern that the holistic intent and recommendations of [He Ara Oranga](#) (Report of the Government Inquiry into mental health and addiction) for transformation of the mental health and wellbeing system are losing traction and visibility.