

Quarterly meeting with the Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission

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To: Hon Andrew Little, Minister of Health

Copy to: [REDACTED] Ministry of Health

Contact for telephone discussion:

Name	Position	Telephone
Hayden Wano	Chair, Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission	[REDACTED]
Karen Orsborn	Chief Executive, Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission	[REDACTED]

Signed:

[REDACTED]

Karen Orsborn
Chief Executive
Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission

Hon Andrew Little
Minister of Health

Minister's Office:

Comment:

Quarterly meeting with the Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission

Purpose of briefing

1. You are meeting with the Chair of the Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission (the Commission) Board, Hayden Wano and the Chief Executive, Karen Orsborn from 10.00am to 10.30 am on Thursday, 8 July 2021. This briefing provides an update on the Commission's work to date and key tasks in the next few months.

Key points

2. Topics covered in this briefing, and possible discussion are:
 - the Commission's submission on the long-term pathway
 - work in progress and planned reports for 2021
 - Parliamentary Cross-party working group,
 - Board composition, and
 - the Chief Executive's appointment.

Recommendations

3. It is recommended that you:
 - a. **note** the contents of this briefing will shape the discussion with you.
 - b. **note** the Commission intends to proactively release this briefing as part of our proactive release policy.

Background

1. The Commission was established on 9 February 2021. The establishment was celebrated with a Pōwhiri on 9 February and a formal launch on 14 April 2021. The Commission appreciates your participation in both these events.
2. Meetings between you and the Commission have been scheduled approximately quarterly, our last meeting was on 30 March, our next meeting is scheduled for 21 October.
3. On 30 March we provided information about the work of the Initial Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission and our planned work for the first 18 months [BN2021_003 refers]. Since then you have provided feedback on our Statement of Intent 2020 – 24 and Statement of Performance Expectations 2020 / 21, and these are due for publication before the end of June.
4. This briefing note work in progress and our key tasks for the rest of the 2021 calendar year, as well as a discussion of the cross-party working group, Board composition and information about the newly appointed Chief Executive.

Long-term pathway, expectations and the Commission's involvement

5. The Commission made a submission on the long-term pathway being developed by the Ministry of Health. Our submission is underpinned by the findings and recommendations of the Initial Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission's report *Mā Te Rongo Ake* about progress of the Government's system transformation response to *He Ara Oranga: The Report of the Inquiry into Mental Health and Addiction*.
6. It was pleasing to see the development of the mental wellbeing long-term pathway and we support the principles and enablers that have been focused on, especially having Te Tiriti o Waitangi held up as a prominent principle.
7. We look forward to the opportunity to provide comment on the long-term pathway when it is released for feedback. In our view, for the pathway to be effective in providing direction for system transformation it needs to:
 - a. **Be a clear plan with direction** that builds on the vision for system transformation outlined in He Ara Oranga. The plan would include a description of success with specific actions, accountabilities and milestones.
 - b. **Include measures of success:** The plan should include measures of success so that progress can be clearly tracked.

- c. **Be underpinned by Māori:** This should be underpinned by a clear, whole of Government implementation plan led by Māori, people with lived experience, and priority groups to ensure equitable decision-making powers.
 - d. **Enable system leadership:** Effective communication, collaboration and guidance from leaders will ensure;
 - i. responses are aligned and coordinated.
 - ii. mental wellbeing needs are met, and approaches are adopted from a strengths-based, mana enhancing perspective.
 - iii. enable the ability to build resilience and be inclusive of the whole whānau.
 - e. **Be targeted for priority groups:** There are opportunities for priority populations to contribute to this plan, *and* to the development of the National Services Framework (NSF).
8. We look forward to having further involvement in the development of the mental wellbeing long term pathway, and the companion National System and Services Framework, as a partner to the Ministry in leadership of the system.

Other work in progress and planned reports 2021

- 9. The Commission continues to have a focus on establishment, and tasks are progressing to plan for the Commission to be largely functioning independently by 1 July 2021. There are still some establishment tasks, and these have been included in the Commission's budget in 2021/22.
- 10. The Commission has been establishing relationships across the sector and has met with groups and representatives from the priority groups we are expected to focus on; this means Māori as tangata whenua, Pacific people, Rainbow, rural, prisoners, veterans and other groups identified in our legislation. Lived experience groups are also a focus.
- 11. Preliminary meetings have a focus on introduction, understanding how entities, communities and people want to work with the Commission and what outcomes are important to them.
- 12. The Commission is in the process of developing an organisational strategy. We want to ensure our resources are well aligned to our functions and role as well as focusing on position statements to a) embed Te Tiriti o Waitangi throughout all we do and b) consider the perspectives of those with lived experience.

13. During the remainder of this calendar year we expect to develop and publish two key reports related to our functions – one on wellbeing and one on mental health and addiction services.
14. The Initial Commission proposed a two-part outcomes and monitoring framework to lay the groundwork for managing the broad scope of our work and to help keep wellbeing in view as well as mental health and addiction services:
 - the draft “He Ara Oranga wellbeing outcomes and monitoring framework” for mental health and wellbeing, which has a focus on wellbeing and measures of wellbeing.
 - the draft “He Ara Āwhina service level monitoring framework for mental health and addiction services”, which has a focus on the quality of mental health and addiction services and approaches.
15. The Commission has now formally adopted the He Ara Oranga wellbeing outcomes framework.

Reporting on the He Ara Oranga wellbeing outcomes framework

16. The He Ara Oranga wellbeing outcomes framework is a conceptual framework that describes an aspirational vision of ‘what good looks like’ in the future and has three notable and unique design features:
 - it is a holistic wellbeing framework that focuses on wellbeing for all and is also relevant to those with lived experience of mental health and addiction.
 - The wellbeing outcomes are depicted from both te ao Māori and shared wellbeing perspectives. There is no existing framework that incorporates this duality and respects both tangata whenua and tangata Tiriti perspectives (though Treasury is working to adapt the Living Standards Framework for this purpose).
 - The wellbeing outcomes are proposed to cascade from a population level through to a mental health and addiction service-level. There is no existing framework that seeks to align outcomes achievement from a whole population level through to systems and services. Most frameworks are aimed at either population OR system OR service levels.
17. The Commission is working to publish a first report using the He Ara Oranga wellbeing outcomes framework by December 2021. This report will seek to set out the wellbeing story with analysis and insights, supported by peoples’ stories and “what wellbeing means for them”.
18. The outcomes framework is intended to be enduring, subject to regular review, and to evolve over time to reflect wellbeing outcomes relevant to Aotearoa and new data availability.

19. It is anticipated that the Commission will continue to engage on and refine the framework. This is important given the number of cross-agency wellbeing frameworks under development.

Mental health and addiction service monitoring report

20. The Commission considers it important to keep continuity with the reporting from the former Mental Health Commissioner, while continuing establishment work and the development of the new framework.
21. The Commission's 2021 mental health services and addiction services monitoring report will be a transitional report based on the former Mental Health Commissioner's quality domains and measures. [REDACTED]
22. The mental health and addiction service monitoring report will include a progress report on implementation of the Access and Choice programme. Following discussions with you on 23 June 2021, we are considering bringing the timeframe for reporting on Access and Choice forward and providing a discrete report on this programme.
23. Further work is underway to develop the He Ara Āwhina Framework for future assessment, monitoring and reporting on the mental health and addiction system. This work will be completed by June 2022 and will provide the framework for our monitoring report in 2022.

Parliamentary Cross-Party Mental Health and Wellbeing Group collaboration

24. In August of 2019, a group was launched at Parliament which included a member from each party in Parliament. It was formed following a recommendation from the 2018 Government Inquiry into Mental Health and Addiction.
25. The Commission Chair and Acting CEO met with the Parliamentary Cross-Party Mental Health and Wellbeing Group on 18 May.
26. There was a positive discussion to understand our respective roles and priorities. There was an initial suggestion for a combined strategy session between the Board of the Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission and the Cross-Party Group. This has been deferred to a future date.
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

Board appointments

29. At our meeting on 30 March we mentioned that it would be helpful to have another Board member with knowledge of te ao Māori, tikanga Māori, mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledges) and whānau-centred approaches to wellbeing.

30. We have now discussed this matter more formally as the Commission's Board and there is agreement it would be helpful to have at least two Board members who are Māori, to better meet Te Tiriti o Waitangi obligations as set out in the Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission Act 2020 (Section 3).

32. The Chair is considering expressions of interest and would like to propose that that this role forms part of the Commission's board proposal package.

Chief Executive appointment

35. The Commission retained Jackson Stone to help with the recruitment process for its inaugural Chief Executive. Four candidates were shortlisted with three candidates being interviewed. From this short-list the Acting Chief Executive of the Commission, Karen Orsborn, was selected to fill the role.

36. During 2020, Karen led the establishment of the permanent Commission as Head of Secretariat for the Initial Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission.

37. Previously, Karen was Director Health Quality Improvement and Deputy CEO at the Health Quality and Safety Commission (HQSC), leading national patient safety and quality improvement programmes across public and private hospitals, primary and community care, mental health and addiction services, and aged care.
38. Karen has also held roles as National Lead for Elective Services and Group Manager Funding at the Ministry of Health, as well as operational roles in a District Health Board.
39. Karen will be welcomed to the Commission in her new role on Tuesday the 6 July with a Pōwhiri at Pipitea Marae.
40. An invite was sent to your office as a guest to Karen's Pōwhiri. Pending your availability, we look forward to seeing you there.

ENDS