

Information being released

Information to be released is attached. **Table 1** sets out information and documents relevant to your request. A total of 28 items were identified as being within the scope of your request.

I have decided to release items 1-27 in full, subject to:

- information being withheld under the following sections of the Official Information Act, as applicable:
 - names of third parties, under section 9(2)(a) to “protect the privacy of natural persons” – note that we have withheld names of all third parties who were not involved in this project or whom we were not able to hear back from within the timeframes for the finalization of this response.
 - mobile and direct dial phone numbers of officials, under section 9(2)(k) “to prevent the disclosure of information for improper gain or improper advantage”. This will reduce the possibility of staff being exposed to phishing and other scams, as the information released under this OIA may end up in the public domain.
 - direct quotes from focus group participants under section 9(2)(ba) to “protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence... where the making available of the information – (i) would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information... and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be applied”.
- the removal of Appendix 2, Item 1 as a final version of this paper is on the Commission website
- the removal of cost estimates for the project as being out of scope.

What we agreed to

As agreed with you on 14 March 2022, the Commission has created a document (item 28) anonymising and summarising feedback from the lived experience focus groups held to support the development of the draft framework. The purpose of creating this compilation is to bring transparency to lived experience voices that have guided the framework development while also maintaining privacy and preserving trust and confidence of focus group participants.

Information given in good faith

The information contained in some of the documents have staff names and contractors who have provided work on the He Ara Āwhina framework. As an agency of the Crown, we have an obligation to ensure the health and safety of our staff, therefore, staff identities released under this OIA request is done so in good faith and should be used fairly, responsibly, and in accordance with the law.

Table 1. Items within scope of request

Description	Item	Decision
Document type: Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission Board (Board) papers and associated minutes		
Board approval of project scope	1. <u>April 2021 He Ara Āwhina Board Paper and Appendix 1</u> 2. <u>April 2021 Board Minute Item 7 regarding He Ara Āwhina</u>	Items released subject to sections 9(2)(a), 9(2)(ba)(i), and 9(2)(k) of the Official Information Act, and to the removal of cost estimates as being out of scope, as applicable.
Board approval of project approach	3. <u>June 2021 He Ara Āwhina Board paper and appendix</u> 4. <u>June 2021 Board Minute Item 11 regarding He Ara Āwhina</u>	Item 1, Appendix 2 is not included as it is a draft of the following final paper available on the <u>Commission's website</u> .
Board approval of draft conceptual framework for public consultation	5. <u>February 2022 He Ara Āwhina Board paper and appendix</u> <i>Note that the relevant Board Minute had not been confirmed by the Board at the time of this request.</i>	Items 2 and 4 are released as excerpts as records relating to other items are out of scope.
Document type: <u>Expert Advisory Group (EAG) papers, meeting notes and substantive emails</u>		
<p>A 13 member EAG, chaired by [REDACTED], met four times to guide the development of the framework, and held three subcommittee meetings to bring together specific perspectives. No EAG emails were identified as providing substantive new information and were therefore considered to be out of scope. <i>Note the Commission had dynamic conversations with EAG members throughout development to make use of member expertise and test ideas. These informal interactions are not in scope of this request.</i></p>		
EAG Meeting #1, 1 September 2021, documents	6. <u>EAG #1 Agenda</u> 7. <u>EAG #1 Background paper A3 summary</u> 8. <u>EAG #1 Framework Development Background paper</u>	Items released subject to sections 9(2)(a) and 9(2)(k) of the Official Information Act, as applicable.

	<p>9. <u>EAG #1 Draft Terms of Reference</u></p> <p>10. <u>EAG #1 Powerpoint</u></p> <p>11. <u>EAG #1 Workshop session</u></p> <p>12. <u>EAG #1 Minutes</u></p>	
EAG Meeting #2 documents	<p>13. <u>EAG #2 Agenda</u></p> <p>14. <u>EAG #2 Updated TOR</u></p> <p>15. <u>EAG #2 Updated Framework Development Background Paper</u></p> <p>16. <u>EAG #2 Option development paper</u></p> <p>17. <u>EAG #2 Powerpoint</u></p> <p>18. <u>EAG #2 Minutes</u></p>	
EAG Meeting #3 documents	<p>19. <u>EAG #3 Agenda</u></p> <p>20. <u>EAG #3 Option development paper</u></p> <p>21. <u>EAG #3 Updated Framework Development Background paper</u></p> <p>22. <u>EAG #3 Powerpoint</u></p> <p>23. <u>EAG #3 Minutes</u></p>	
EAG Meeting #4 documents	<p>24. <u>EAG #4 Agenda</u></p> <p>25. <u>EAG #4 Update paper</u></p> <p>26. <u>EAG #4 Working draft framework</u></p> <p>27. <u>EAG #4 powerpoint</u></p> <p><i>Note that EAG #4 Minutes had not been confirmed by the EAG at the time of this request.</i></p>	
<p>Document type: Compilation of lived experience focus group feedback</p> <p>Five lived experience focus groups were held between 15 and 23 November 2021 to build, test and improve early drafts with tāngata whaiora Māori, tāngata whaiora rangatahi, people with lived experience of mental distress, of harm from substance use, and of harm from gambling. Within these groups were people who brought whānau and carer perspectives. While many of the participants are employed by sector organisations, they participated as individuals not representatives of organisations.</p>		
Summary of lived experience feedback	<p>28. <u>Compilation of lived experience focus group feedback, summarized to maintain trust and preserve the privacy of participants</u></p>	Item released in full.

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Official Information Act.

Please note, the Commission publishes some of its OIA responses on its website, after the response is sent to the requester. The responses published are those that are considered to have a high level of public interest. We will not publish your name, address or contact details.

This reply addresses the information requested. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss this information release, please feel free to contact  [@mhwc.govt.nz](mailto: @mhwc.govt.nz).

Nāku noa, nā



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