

Briefing

Quarterly progress report

Date due to MO: 24 February 2022 **Action required by:** 28 Feb 2022

Security level: IN CONFIDENCE **Briefing number:** BN2022-001

To: Hon Andrew Little, Minister of Health

Copy to: Hon Peeni Henare, Associate Minister of Health (Māori Health)
Hon Aupito William Si'o, Associate Minister of Health (Pacific Health)

[REDACTED] Ministry of Health

Contact for telephone discussion

Name	Position	Telephone
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Minister's Office:

Comment:

Quarterly progress report

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To: Hon Andrew Little, Minister of Health

Purpose of briefing

1. You are meeting with the Board Chair of the Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission (the Commission), Hayden Wano and the Chief Executive, Karen Orsborn from 3.00pm – 3.30pm, Tuesday, 1 March 2022. This briefing provides information to inform your discussion with the Commission.

Key points

2. The Commission would like to discuss with you:
 - 'Te Huringa', the Mental Health and Addiction Services Monitoring Report 2022
 - He Ara Āwhina Framework consultation
 - Te Reo Māori name and brand for the Commission
 - Our draft SPE 2022/23 and priorities

Recommendations

We recommend you:

- a) **note** the content of this paper provides an outline for our discussion with you
- b) **note** the Commission intends to proactively release this briefing as part of our proactive release policy.

Signed:

Karen Orsborn

Chief Executive

Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission

Hon Andrew Little

Minister of Health

Quarterly progress report

Background

3. The Commission last met with you in October 2021 [BN2021_005 refers].
4. In late 2021, the Commission Board approved our Te Tiriti o Waitangi Position Statement, the Commission's strategy, and draft Statement of Intent 2022-2026 (SOI). The strategy on a page is attached to this briefing.
5. The Commission has also met and begun strengthening Rangatira ki te Rangatira relationships with mana whenua, at a leadership level. This has enabled kaimahi ki te kaimahi discussions to occur, at an operational level. The Commission has broadened its reach to other iwi, hapū and whānau Māori now that the relationship with mana whenua has been realised.

Quarterly activity

MHA Service Monitoring Report

6. The Commission is due to release '*Te Huringa: Mental Health and Addiction Services Monitoring Report 2022* (Te Huringa), in March 2022. A briefing will be provided to you with an advanced copy of the report and communication plan on 24 February 2022. Te Huringa is a transitional report, providing continuity of reporting from the former Mental Health Commissioner's report, while the Commission develops our framework to monitor the mental health and addiction system, *He Ara Āwhina* (pathways to support).
7. Te Huringa examines the quality of mental health services and addiction services, and highlights examples of services and programmes that exemplify the vision of He Ara Oranga. The Commission has also outlined calls to action resulting from our findings, which provide key points of direction for the mental health and addiction system during the upcoming health reforms.

He Ara Āwhina Framework

8. He Ara Āwhina will be the Commission's framework for assessing and monitoring the mental health and addiction system, and to support advocacy for improvement. It is being co-designed with an expert advisory group and is currently in draft form for public consultation which begins 7 March 2022.
9. The draft framework has an overarching goal of a 'whānau dynamic mental health and addiction system'. Like our Wellbeing Outcomes Framework, it has dual perspectives; a te ao Māori perspective and a shared perspective. The system aspirations for each perspective have been framed within six quality dimensions and have been written in the first-person narrative, amplifying the most important voices, with people and whānau setting the direction and measures of service and system performance.

Quarterly progress meeting with Minister Andrew Little

10. He Ara Āwhina will be published in June 2022.

Te Reo Māori name for the Commission, branding and our Pou Rama desi

11. The Commission is currently working with Tātou a communication, marketing & engagement agency that provides a strong cultural offering in Aotearoa, to develop our brand, design a Pou Rama and support us in finding a Te Reo Māori name for the Commission. This work has commenced with two wānanga seeking participants views, goals, and perceptions of the Commission from internal and external stakeholders.

12. The Te Reo Māori name is expected to come from the engagement with Tātou and Māori leaders, as part of the design development process. Our Board are closely involved in the process and are expecting to make a decision by April 2022.

Our draft SPE 2022/23 and priorities

13. We have developed an organisational strategy that will give effect to the Commission's legislative role and function, as outlined in the Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission Act 2020, alongside stakeholder and community expectations. Our role is broad and of critical important to achieve the system transformation call for in He Ara Oranga. These are challenging times as we all work towards the response to, and recovery from the impact of COVID-19 along with the significant reform of the Health and Disability system.

14. Our draft SOI and draft Statement of Performance Expectations 2022/23 (SPE) reflects our Te Tiriti o Waitangi Position statement and new organisational strategy. We welcome the opportunity to discuss priorities for the upcoming year.

15. Through our engagements and the development of our strategy it has become clear that the resources we have are not completely aligned to the very broad responsibilities of the Commission. In particular, the Commission requires significant capability to engage with Māori and reflect Te Ao Māori perspectives in all our work. The breadth of engagement with priority populations and our substantial monitoring role also requires investment. Without additional investment the Commission will be materially constrained in its ability to fully discharge the very broad statutory role bestowed upon it.

16. The Commission has submitted a bid for full funding in Budget 22 and we are working with the Ministry of Health to secure sustainable funding and continue the momentum in the interim.

Cross-Party Mental Health and Addictions Wellbeing Group

17. The Commission has been invited to meet regularly with the Cross-Party Group.

18. Following the release of the Access and Choice report, the Commission was asked by the Cross-Party group to present its findings to Members of Parliament. The presentation was received favourably and generated good discussion.

Consultation

17. The Commission met with the Hon Peeni Henare and Hon Aupito William Si'o on 17 February 2022. Both Minister Henare and Minister Si'o welcomed the opportunity to learn more about the Commission, its work programme, and the progress it has made since becoming formally established on 9 February 2021.

18. Discussions included, the health sector reforms and where we could contribute and support the changes that are occurring; the work to establish authentic Iwi relationships; and an overview of the findings from the *Access and Choice* and *Te Rau Tira Wellbeing Outcomes* reports. The discussions also included a briefing on our intention to follow up with an in-depth insights report on Kaupapa Māori and youth services, in the next financial year.

19. Minister Henare has invited Commission officials to engage regularly on the shared topics of interest, and our progress against our work plan.

20. Discussions with Minister Si'o around his interest in the representation of Pacific Peoples' wellbeing in our monitoring and reporting activity. The Minister is supportive of our intended approach, including a focus on Pacific Peoples' wellbeing insights in the 2023/24 year. Minister Si'o was particularly interested in our proposed focus on youth wellbeing insights and the focus on youth mental health services.

21. He noted that a long-standing theme of the fono he has participated in since 2018, has been the need for youth to be influential in the decisions made, regarding the services offered in communities.

22. The Minister endorsed our ongoing work with the Ministry for Pacific Peoples, especially our collaboration on data from their Lalanga Fou and using their COVID-19 community fono to inform our insights. We intend these insights to inform our advocacy for Mental Health and Addictions and Wellbeing Systems transformation.

23. Minister Sio has invited Commission officials to engage regularly on his topics of interest, and our progress against our work plan.

Next steps

9. We look forward to our meeting with you on 1 March 2022 and discussing our work plan with you.

ENDS

Quarterly progress meeting with Minister Andrew Little