

Briefing



He Ara Āwhina (Pathways to Support) framework – final conceptual framework

Date due to MO: 20/06/2022 **Action required by:** 30/06/2022
Security level: IN-CONFIDENCE **Briefing number:** BN2022-006
To: Hon Andrew Little, Minister of Health
Copy to: Hon Peeni Henare, Associate Minister of Health
Hon Aupito William Sio, Minister for Pacific Peoples
[REDACTED] Ministry of Health

Contact for Telephone Discussion

Name	Position	Telephone
Karen Orsborn	Chief Executive, Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission	[REDACTED]
Tanya Maloney	Director Mental Health and Addiction System Leadership	[REDACTED]

Minister's Office to Complete

- | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Approved | <input type="checkbox"/> Decline | <input type="checkbox"/> Noted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Needs change | <input type="checkbox"/> Seen | <input type="checkbox"/> Overtaken by event |
| <input type="checkbox"/> See Minister's note | <input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn | |

Comment:

He Ara Āwhina (Pathways to Support) framework – final conceptual framework

Security level: IN-CONFIDENCE **Date:** 20/06/2022

To: Hon Andrew Little, Minister of Health

Copy to: Hon Peeni Henare, Associate Minister of Health
Hon Aupito William Sio, Minister for Pacific Peoples

██ Ministry of Health

Purpose of report

1. To present the **He Ara Āwhina (Pathways to Support) conceptual framework (He Ara Āwhina)** the Commission intends to publish on 30 June 2022 for your information.

Executive Summary

2. **He Ara Āwhina** is the Commission's framework for assessing and monitoring the mental health and addiction system, and to support advocacy for improvement. It has been co-designed with an [Expert Advisory Group](#) (EAG), and through wide public consultation, and includes a te ao Māori perspective and a shared perspective.

3. **He Ara Āwhina** links strongly to **He Ara Oranga** (the Inquiry) vision for system transformation that:

*"We aspire to a flourishing New Zealand, where a good level of mental wellbeing is attainable for everyone, outcomes are equitable across the whole of our society, and people who experience mental distress have the resilience, tools and support they need to regain their wellbeing."*¹

4. **He Ara Āwhina** is an overarching and inclusive framework. It is intended to be enduring but living and remain current over time. Measurement under the framework will have a life course approach and apply to all ages – from infancy to end of life.

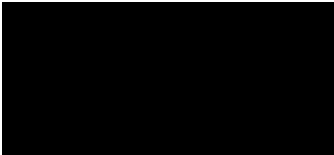
¹ He Ara Oranga. Report of the Government Inquiry into Mental Health and Addiction. P82.

- 5. The te ao Māori perspective for **He Ara Āwhina** has been developed by Māori, with Māori, for Māori. This includes the EAG Māori roopū and our Commission Ngā Ringa Raupā roopū providing oversight and advice, and a separate Māori engagement and consultation process.
- 6. The two perspectives work together, for instance the shared perspective also applies to Māori. They are not direct translations of each other, but weave together reflecting the role that Tangata whenua and Tangata Tiriti have to play; working together to support improving the collective wellbeing of all.
- 7. During our recent six-week public consultation process we received over 260 submissions across all priority population groups. Overall, people told us that the framework resonates with them and they like the first-person narrative, structure, and concepts. The feedback however guided us to strengthen and clarify content that was important to people.
- 8. The final **He Ara Āwhina** conceptual framework (attached) has been endorsed by the EAG and approved by the Commission’s Board for publication on 30 June 2022. This will be followed by three documents summarising the submission feedback from Māori, people with lived experience and the shared perspective.
- 9. **He Ara Āwhina** is a conceptual framework that describes **what** an ideal mental health and addiction system looks like from the perspective of people and whānau with lived experience of mental distress or addiction. Our important next stage of mahi will develop the methods and measures for **how** we will assess and monitor.

Recommendations

We recommend you:

- a) **note** the Commission intends to publish the He Ara Āwhina (Pathways to Support) conceptual framework on our website 30 June 2022 **Yes / No**
- b) **note** the Commission intends to proactively release this briefing as part of our proactive release policy **Yes / No**



Karen Orsborn
Chief Executive
 Date: 20/06/2022

Hon. Andrew Little
Minister of Health
 Date:

He Ara Āwhina (Pathways to Support) framework – final conceptual framework

Background

10. The Commission developed the He Ara Oranga wellbeing outcomes framework, which was published June 2021, to describe and assess wellbeing outcomes.
11. He Ara Āwhina is a partner framework that describes an ideal mental health and addiction system from the perspective of people with lived experience of mental distress or addiction.
12. He Ara Āwhina will enable the Commission to fulfil our key legislative function to monitor mental health services and addiction services and to advocate for improvements to those services. This function was transferred from the former Mental Health Commissioner on the establishment of the Commission.
13. We will use He Ara Āwhina to:
 - monitor mental health and addiction services,
 - monitor changes as the mental health and addiction system transforms,
 - advocate for improvements to the mental health and addiction system, and services.
14. Work on He Ara Āwhina began with the Initial Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission working on the co-define phase in consultation with communities between October 2020 and February 2021. The Commission is completing the development of He Ara Āwhina, including the conceptual framework (central to this Briefing) and methods and measures to assess and monitor progress.
15. Following on from the co-define phase, an EAG, chaired by Sharon Shea, was established, and began their mahi in September 2021 co-designing and co-developing the conceptual framework, including assessing model and framework options, considering research, developing the two perspectives, and refining the draft framework for public consultation.
16. The te ao Māori perspective has been developed by Māori, with Māori, for Māori. This includes the EAG Māori roopū and Ngā Ringa Raupā (the Commission's internal Māori roopū) providing oversight and advice, and a separate Māori engagement process by our Māori project roopū for consultation on the draft framework.
17. Each perspective of **He Ara Āwhina** has six aspirations based on the well-researched quality dimensions. These dimensions include markers for an ideal system, and represent the important issues raised by communities during the mental health inquiry and our design and engagement processes.
18. The Commission released Te Huringa: Change and Transformation. Mental Health Service and Addiction Service Monitoring Report 2022 in March 2022. Te

Huringa was a transitional monitoring report that used an adapted version of the former Mental Health Commissioner’s framework, while we developed He Ara Āwhina as our framework for monitoring from March 2023.

Final conceptual framework

19. The He Ara Āwhina draft conceptual framework went out for public consultation for six weeks from 8 March to 19 April 2022. The Commission supported many ways for people to provide us feedback to ensure the framework and six-week consultation process was accessible to everyone, especially our priority population groups.
20. The Commission received over 260 submissions from the six-week consultation process. Over 25% of the submissions identified as Māori and almost 10% identified as Pacific people.
21. Through a dedicated Māori engagement team, we achieved strong input by Māori, including tāngata whaiora, whānau and Kaupapa Māori supports and services. This feedback has been supportive of the framework, and helpfully identified concepts that could be strengthened or included across both perspectives.
22. Overall, people told us that the framework resonates with them and they like the first-person narrative, structure, and concepts. People endorsed the wide scope of the framework. Changes were needed to strengthen or clarify content that was important to people, and these have driven the revisions in both perspectives of the framework.
23. Following the public consultation, the EAG met several times to review and provide advice on the required changes to the framework. The EAG endorsed the framework on 2 June, and the Commission Board approved the framework on 16 June 2022.
24. **He Ara Āwhina** conceptual framework (attached) will be published 30 June 2022 to meet our Statement of Performance Expectations 2020-2021 Output 5 “A framework for monitoring and reporting on mental health and addiction services”. The framework will use the Commission’s new te Reo name and brand assets.

Next Steps

Communications

25. The He Ara Āwhina framework and attached documents will be released on 30 June 2022, in line with advice provided during the public consultation process that the final framework would be published and shared by the end of June 2022.
26. This is five days before the launch of the new name for the Commission, however,

the new branding and name will be applied to the final published framework. The final framework and a summary of feedback will be sent by email to all key stakeholders on 30 June and will note that the brand and te reo name are due to be launched the following week.

27. The communication plan is provided as an attachment to this briefing.

Methods / Measurement phase and future reporting

28. The Methods / Measurement phase has commenced and will be guided by the Commission's monitoring strategy, strategic direction from our EAG and Ngā Ringa Raupā and significant insights from our public consultation process that tell us what people want to see measured and expectations for how we monitor. A technical advisory group (TAG) is being formed, will be chaired by Sharon Shea, and include some cross-membership with the EAG for continuity.

29. **He Ara Āwhina** methods and measures will over time replace those used in **Te Huringa**. Some of the data needed to monitor under **He Ara Āwhina** will be readily available to be used for monitoring from March 2023. Other methods and measures will need a longer timeframe for development as the data does not exist or is not easily available nationally.

30. The relationship between **He Ara Āwhina** and the System and Services Framework (SSF) has been discussed with the Ministry of Health. It is envisioned that **He Ara Āwhina** will provide the overarching aspiration and direction for the mental health and addiction system, with the SSF providing the detail of 'what' is provided (and where).

31. The Commission's next important stage of mahi for He Ara Āwhina will be to develop the methods and measures for how we will assess and monitor against He Ara Āwhina. Reporting against He Ara Āwhina will commence in March 2023.

ENDS