

## Quarterly meeting with the Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission

**Date due to** 8 October 2021  
**MO:**

**Action required** 21 October  
**by:** 2021

**Security** IN CONFIDENCE  
**level:**

**Commission** BN2021\_005  
**Report number:**

**To:** Hon Andrew Little, Minister of Health

[REDACTED]

[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 11.00am – 12.00pm on Thursday, 21 October 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:
  - Te Tiriti o Waitangi Position Statement
  - Strategy update
  - [REDACTED]
  - Upcoming reports
  - Kia Manawanui Aotearoa
  - Health reforms, and
  - Board appointments

## 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, and we are now in the first full year of operation.
2. Meetings between you and the Commission have been scheduled for quarterly with our last meeting held on 8 July 2021.
3. On 25 June 2021, we provided information on our programme of work [BN2021\_004 refers]. Since then, we have published our Statement of Intent 2020–2024 and both the Statement of Performance Expectations for the year 2020/21 and 2021/22 on the Commission’s website.
4. This briefing notes work in progress and our key tasks for the 2021 financial year, upcoming reports, as well as a discussion on the proposed resource process, Board composition and Kia Manawanui Aotearoa.

## **Te Tiriti o Waitangi Position Statement**

5. The Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission (the Commission) recognises Te Tiriti o Waitangi (Te Tiriti) as the foundation document that symbolises the unique relationship between Government and Māori as tangata whenua.
6. As a Crown entity the Commission is committed to being an organisation that is ‘Grounded in Te Tiriti’ and will achieve this through listening to Māori, prioritising Māori wellbeing and establishing authentic partnerships with Māori as our Te Tiriti partner.
7. We will also build our capability and measure our meaningful and active learning of Te Tiriti articles and oral declaration protecting Māori customs and beliefs, learn how these are expressed within the health and disability sector and how Te Tiriti can be conveyed through a unique Māori concept of ‘Mana’ that is complex and multidimensional.
8. The Commission is well underway with the development of a ‘Grounded in Te Tiriti’ framework that will help us express ‘Mana Whakahaere-Good Government, Mana Motuhake-Unique and indigenous, Mana Tangata-Fairness and Justice, Mana Māori-Cultural identity and integrity’ in all our work.
9. The Commission acknowledges the detrimental impacts on the wellbeing of Māori because of colonisation, historical and generational trauma, alienation, and racism, and is committed to addressing these impacts in improving Māori mental health and wellbeing.



## Planned reports for 2021

### Access and Choice Report

16. The Access and Choice report was submitted to the Minister on 8 October. Our conclusions reinforce the findings of the *Implementation Unit: Mid-term Review of the 2019 Mental Health Package* that the programme is largely on track.
17. The programme is an important step in addressing He Ara Oranga recommendations on increasing access to services and expanding the choice of services. However, our conclusions noted that there have been delays with the implementation of Māori, Pacific and Youth services and we encourage the Government to prioritise the ongoing development of these services.
18. The Commission intends to publish its Access and Choice report before the end of October. You will receive an advance copy of the report for your information, as well as a briefing covering the main insights and any recommendations.

### Service Monitoring Report

19. The Commission will release its first mental health and addiction service monitoring report in [REDACTED]. The report will provide an update on quality domains used by the former Mental Health Commissioner.
20. The domains have been updated to reflect the feedback from community that was received during a co-define exercise. The report will primarily be reporting quantitative data, however, will also include exemplars of innovative services and programmes that reflects the vision of He Ara Oranga.
21. The Commission intends to publish its service monitoring report [REDACTED]. You will receive an advance copy of the report for your information, as well as a briefing covering the main insights and any recommendations.

### Reporting against the He Ara Oranga Wellbeing Outcomes Framework

22. The Commission is currently preparing its initial assessment of wellbeing against its He Ara Oranga Wellbeing Outcomes Framework. This report aims to do several things:
  - introduce its wellbeing framework as an aspirational view of wellbeing (what good looks like) – from both a te ao Māori and shared perspective
  - set out how the Commission will assess wellbeing
  - establish a ‘wellbeing baseline’ to measure progress against
  - capture what we know about the impact of covid on wellbeing
  - signal the kind of work the Commission will do in future.
23. We intend to publish its baseline assessment of wellbeing before the end of the calendar year and is working towards a December release date. You will receive

an advance copy of the report for your information, as well as a briefing covering the main insights and any recommendations.

24. We will also outline some of the key findings from our initial assessment of wellbeing at our 21 October meeting.

### **Annual Report 2020-21**

25. The Annual report (the report) for the year in review is in development. The report will describe the legislative framework in which the Commission operates and the role and the function of the Commission on mental health and wellbeing.
26. The report will give an overview of the work completed in the five months of operation and set the scene for the final stage of our establishment.
27. We will be sending the draft report to the Ministry of Health in early October 2021.
28. The auditors are scheduled in the office in the first week of October and are likely to finalise their part of the report by 22 November 2021.
29. You will receive a briefing and a tabling process closer to the time of completion with hard copies delivered to you. We will liaise with your office throughout this process.

### **Kia Manawanui Aotearoa**

30. The Commission welcomed the release of Kia Manawanui in September and are pleased to see the Government's ongoing commitment to drive change and deliver on its response to He Ara Oranga.
31. We look forward to seeing the more detailed plans that will ensure the pathway is operationalised within the broad timeframes provided in the pathway.

### **Health Reforms**

32. A senior representative from the Transition Unit of the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet briefed the Commission Board on progress with the health reforms and the development of the New Zealand Health Plan.
33. The Commission has offered to support the mental health and addiction workstream which is consistent with our role in promoting alignment, collaboration and communication between entities involved in mental health and wellbeing.
34. We have expressed our strong interest in working alongside the Transition Unit and Ministry of Health in the new Mental Health and Addiction Assurance Group. We are also committed to monitoring the direction of the changes to ensure alignment with He Ara Oranga.

## Board appointments

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

37. To better meet Te Tiriti o Waitangi obligations as set out in the Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission Act 2020 (Section 3). We continue to work with the Ministry of Health in identifying potential candidates that will add the voice of Māori and help influence positive change in how our mental health system needs to perform better for Māori.

**ENDS**