

16 June 2023

Tēnā koutou and welcome to the 6th edition of Kāpuia Pānui for 2023.

Agency updates on the RCOI Response Work Programme

1. Prime Minister comments on the Government’s approach to hate crime

Prime Minister Chris Hipkins was asked in a post Cabinet press conference this week about hate speech, with references to recent Police data on hate-motivated offending being released. The Prime Minister noted that while there is no statute that uses the word ‘hate crime’, this does not mean that people aren’t held accountable for those actions. The Prime Minister noted that the Law Commission looking into hate speech and hate crime is the best approach given the difficulty of the issues. He acknowledged the Law Commission’s resourcing constraints, but noted the Commission is probably in regular conversation with the Minister of Justice around those constraints. The full transcript of the press conference can be found by clicking this [link](#).

2. New Zealand Police’s Firearms Safety Authority improvements on firearms licence processing

New Zealand Police’s Firearms Safety Authority has released data on its project to clear dated firearms licence applications, which was implemented in mid-2022. The Firearms Safety Authority noted that it has decreased the average age of firearms licence applications and has halved the overall number of applications it is managing at a given time. The full article on Police’s effort in improving firearms licence processing can be found by clicking this [link](#).

3. Submissions on the Department of Internal Affairs Content Regulatory Review close on 31 July

The Department of Internal Affairs is seeking community feedback on its proposed approach to regulating online services and media platforms in New Zealand. The aim of the review is to design and implement a new approach to content regulation that minimises the risk of harms caused by content to New Zealanders. Submissions on the review close on 31 July 2023. More information on the review and details on how to make a submission can be found by clicking this [link](#).

4. Registrations to attend the First Coronial Inquest hearing will open soon

Registrations to attend the First Phase Coronial Inquest hearing into the Christchurch Masjidain Attack will open on 3 July 2023. You can register to attend the hearing if you are:

- An Interested Party to the Inquiry, or
- A family member of the deceased, a victim of gunshot wounds, or witness identified as having been present at the masjidain during the attack.

In the community

5. Upcoming dates of significance

- **16 June** Martyrdom (Shahidi) of Guru Arjan Dev Sahib – Guru Arjan Dev was the fifth of the ten Sikh Gurus and the first martyr of the Sikh faith. The day is observed by reading the Guru Granth Sahib.
- **20 June** World Refugee Day.
- **20 June** Dragon Boat Festival – One of China’s most prominent traditional festivals which commemorates the death of the Chinese poet Qu Yuan.
- **26 June to July 1** The Hajj (Pilgrimage) – On specific days of the Islamic month of Zu Al-Hijja, millions of Muslims from around the world congregate in the Prophet’s birthplace of Mecca in Saudi Arabia.
- **28 June** Stonewall Riots – Anniversary to remember the riots against police brutality that started to affect the lives of the gay and lesbian communities.
- **28 June to 2 July** – Eid al adha – The feast of Sacrifice is the second and the larger of the two main holidays celebrated in Islam. Honours the willingness of Abraham to sacrifice his son Ishmael as an act of obedience to God’s command.

Noho ora mai

The Kāpuia Secretariat