

Proactive Release

The following document has been proactively released by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC), on behalf of the Minister for COVID-19 Response, Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall:

COVID-19 Briefings - August 2022

The following documents have been included in this release:

- **Title of paper:** 01082022 Assurance of System readiness Work Underway to Respond to a Variant of Concern
- Title of paper: 03082022 Insights from Recommendations across COVID-19 Response System Reviews
- **Title of paper:** 05082022 Review of New Zealand's COVID-19 Protection Framework and selfisolation settings - 5 August
- Title of paper: 05082022 Public awareness campaign to support people who are unable to wear masks
- **Title of paper:** 08082022 Meeting with Strategic COVID-19 Public Health Advisory Group 10 August 2022
- Title of paper: 12082022 Preparation for Release of Haumaru Briefing
- **Title of paper:** 25082022 Meeting with Prof. Michael Plank
- Title of paper: 26082022 All of Government COVID-19 System Readiness Exercise

Title of paper: 30082022 COVID-19 Community Panel, Chair's Report

Some parts of this information release would not be appropriate to release and, if requested, would be withheld under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Where this is the case, the relevant section of the Act that would apply has been identified. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

Key to redaction codes:

- Section 9(2)(a), to protect the privacy of individuals;
- Section 9(2)(f)(iv), to maintain the confidentiality of advice tendered by or to Ministers and officials;
- Section 9(2)(g)(i), to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinion; and
- Section 9(2)(h), to maintain legal professional privilege.



DEPARTMENT OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET TE TARI O TE PIRIMIA ME TE KOMITI MATUA

Aide-Mémoire

PREPARATION FOR RELEASE OF HAUMARU BRIEFING

To:

Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall, Minister for COVID-19 Response Hon Kelvin Davis, Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti Hon Peeni Henare, Associate Minister of Health (Māori Health) Hon Willie Jackson, Minister for Māori Development

From:	Alice Hume Head of Strategy & Policy,	Date: 12/08/2022
	COVID-19 Group	NO N
Briefing Number:	DPMC-2021/22-2625	Security Level:

Purpose

- 1. s9(2)(f)(iv), s9(2)(g)(i)
- This paper provides the COVID-19 Response Minister with a cover note recommending proactive release of a briefing from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) that outlined agency actions taken to address the Haumaru report. The cover note updates Ministers on the progress made toward addressing the findings and recommendations since provision of the DPMC briefing.
- This paper provides Ministers with draft material s9(2)(f)(iv), s9(2)(g)(i) to support engagement with claimants and stakeholders of the Haumaru report ahead of proactive release.

Hauora report

 The Haumaru report is part of a wider Health Services and Outcomes Kaupapa Inquiry (Wai 2575); the Tribunal released the Hauora Report at the end of Stage One of Wai 2575.

5. s9(2)(f)(iv)

IN CONFIDENCE

s9(2)(f)(iv)

Haumaru report

- The COVID-19 Response Minister agreed to proactively release the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's (DPMC) April 2022 briefing [DPMC-2021/22-1545] outlining the actions taken to address the findings and recommendations of the Haumaru report.
- 8. DPMC officials provided Minister Verrall's office with a draft communications and engagement plan that set out a proposed approach for engaging with claimants and stakeholders ahead of proactive release of the DPMC briefing.
- 9. Separately, you will receive a proactive release cover note that captures updated information on the actions taken since provision of the April 2022 briefing to Ministers. This cover note provides a factual basis for the material appended to this paper to support engagement with claimants and stakeholders ahead of proactive release:
 - a) Engagement material (slide deck).
 - b) s9(2)(f)(iv), s9(2)(g)(i)

Engagement on COVID-19 strategy and legislation

- 10. The Haumaru report made recommendations regarding the Crown's engagement with Māori on COVID-19 matters. At present, there are significant work programmes underway across agencies to design and inform the next phase of pandemic management. Officials propose that Ministers also flag with the New Zealand Māori Council and the New Zealand lwi Chairs Forum that officials intend to discuss this work with those groups and their technicians. This work includes:
 - a) Implementation of the new COVID-19 strategy based on preparedness, protection and resilience, and stability and the possible timing to transition. The strategy will be enabled through baseline and reserve measures. Officials have discussed the strategy with members of the National Iwi Chairs Forum and they expressed an interest in the implementation of the baseline measures that underpin the new strategy.
 - b) The future pandemic legislative framework to replace the COVID-19 Public Health Act.

Officials met with the National Jwi Chairs Forum on Thursday 28 July to discuss this legislative work. The National Jwi Chairs Forum expressed an interest in collaborating with officials on this work and officials have invited technicians to engage in this work in the next week.

- 11. The Haumaru report noted that the Public Service Act 2020 and work programmes led by Te Arawhiti: Office for Māori Crown Relations aim to encourage an increase in public service agencies' capability to undertake robust Treaty of Waitangi analysis into policy advice to Cabinet.
- 12. DPMC commissioned Te Arawhiti and the Crown Law Office to review DPMC's COVID-19 Policy Treaty Guidance earlier this year. The guidance is the basis of the Treaty of Waitangi analysis sections in Cabinet papers prepared by the DPMC Covid-19 Group. This guidance has been provided to Minister Verrall's office for visibility.

-IN CONFIDENCE-

Next steps

- 13. s9(2)(f)(iv), s9(2)(g)(i)
- 14. DPMC will work with Ministers' offices, Te Arawhiti, and the Ministry of Health to engage with the New Zealand Māori Council on the Haumaru report to discuss work underway across government to address the findings and recommendations. s9(2)(f)(iv), s9(2)(g)(i)



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Attachments:	
Attachment A: ttachment A is available on the september-2022/Proactive-Rele Attachment B:	Cover note for proactive release of DPMC Haumaru briefing Unite Against COVID-19 website: https://covid19 govt nz/assets/Proactive-Releases/Reviews-and-audits/Haumaru-briefings-21- iase-and-Updated-Information-on-Actions-Taken-in-Response-to-Waitangi-Tribunals-Haumara-COV D-19-Priority-Report.pdf Engagement material (Slide deck)
Attachment C:	Withheld in full under sections 9(2)(f)(iv) and 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act
Attachment D:	

Contact for telephone discussion		
Name	Position	Telephone
Kay Baxter	Manager Strategy and Policy, DPMC COVID-19 Group	<u>59(2)(a)</u>
Rae Nathan	Senior Advisor, DPMC COVID-19 Group	s9(2)(a)

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This document is available on the Unite Against COVID-19 website: https://covid19 govt nz/assets/Proactive-Releases/Reviews-and-audits/Haumaru-briefings-21-September-2022/Proactive-Release-and-Updated-Information-on-Actions-Taken-in-Response-to-Waitangi-Tribunals-Haumara-COVID-19-Priority-Report.pdf ec

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Attachment B: Engagement material (slide deck)



Action in response to Waitangi Tribunal's Haumaru: The COVID-19 Priority Report

12 August 2022

Tirohanga Whānui - Overview

- Context and Setting
- Actions and progress in addressing key findings and recommendations from Haumaru: The COVID-19 Priority Report
- Wānanga | Discussion

Not Government policy

He whakatau i te kaupapa Context and Setting

Tiro Whakamuri - Background

'E anga whakamuri te titiro, kia pai ai te anga whakamua.' 'Look to the past to inform the future.'

- The Waitangi Tribunal held a priority hearing from 6-10 Dec 2021 into Governments COVID-19 response.
- Key findings: Breaches to Te Tiriti o Waitangi and its overarching mātāpono/principles, specifically of active protection, equity, options, tino rangatiratanga, and partnership.
- Key recommendations from the report suggest Government will remain in active breach until findings resolved.

Providing further funding, resourcing, data, and other support to Māori service providers and communities to support their pandemic response

Not Government policy

Ngā kaupapa: Initiatives supported

Actions and progress in addressing recommendation 1:

- \$70.58 million to support rapid vaccination activities across Aotearoa
- \$39.23 million to build the resilience of vulnerable hapori
- \$20.42 million to assist Māori to manage the impact of COVID-19

Not Government policy

Ngā kaupapa: Initiatives supported

Following calls from Iwi for a 'By Māori, For Māori' marketing campaign to lift vaccination rates, Karawhiua was established. Its success has largely been due to:

- Partnership with Iwi Communications Collective
- On-going support from lwi and hauora providers, who have been involved in inputting into the campaign strategy and delivering it at a regional level.
- High levels of trust and buy-in among Māori for the Karawhiua brand

Improving collection of, and reporting on data relating to ethnicity of people with disabilities

Ngā kaupapa – Initiatives supported

- Steps have been taken to address the undercounting of Māori in vaccination rates. <u>link</u>
- Social Well-Being Agency developed a disability indicator which showed that disabled people had higher vaccination coverage than non-disabled, including for Māori disabled people.
- Strengthening the Ministry of Health's data sharing capability and capacity, which includes being able to share more data on COVID-19 vaccination uptake with Māori providers.
- Ministry of Health has work underway to improve the quality of disability data at a more granular level.

Strengthening the monitoring of the pandemic response to ensure accountability to Māori

Pandemic response

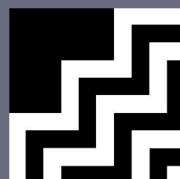
- Health reforms strengthened stewardship, policy, and monitoring roles of Te Manatu Hauora.
- Establishment of *Te Aka Whai Ora* (Māori Health Authority) and *Te Whatu Ora* (Health New Zealand) will further bed-in mechanisms to support accountability.
- Te Puni Kōkiri working collaboratively with Te Aka Whai Ora and Te Whatu Ora on a monitoring approach.

Ensuring the paediatric vaccine and booster vaccine rollout is equitable

Pandemic response

- Approaches have evolved to help increase COVID-19 and flu vaccination coverage and put in place other measures to mitigate pressures on the health system and community. The 'winter package' announced in June includes:
- Widened free eligibility for COVID-19 second booster for Māori and Pacific peoples aged 50 years and older
- Improved access and expanded eligibility for COVID-19 antiviral medicines for Māori and Pacific peoples
- Significantly expanded access to free RATs and masks
- Working with Ngā Mana Whakahaere on vaccination misinformation and vaccine hesitancy.

Empowering Māori to coordinate the Māori pandemic response, including strengthening engagement between Māori and the Crown



Strengthening engagement

- Engaging with National Iwi Chairs Forum on post-winter strategy and implementation of the baseline measures.
- Engaging with the National Iwi Chairs Forum on future pandemic legislative framework.
- Engaging with the Iwi Communications Collective on postwinter campaigns and advertisements for COVID-19.
- Engaging with National Māori Organisations and Iwi on post-winter strategy and implementation of the baseline measures.
- Engagements will allow partners to ask questions and have concerns addressed specific to the on-going pandemic response.

Not government policy

He aha ki tua | Next steps

Next phase of pandemic management

- The Government's approach to managing COVID-19 continues to evolve. At present, there is significant work underway across agencies to support the evolving approach to COVID-19 management.
- We are interested to hear your preferences for engagement on the next phase of pandemic management.

Wānanga | Discussion