



Te Pūkotahitanga

END OF TERM REPORT

He mea nui te whakawhanaungatanga ki te Māori, a ki te hanga i te waa i runga i te whakawhirinaki, mai i te whakawhirinaki ka mau te mana. Mai i te mana ka nui ake te whakapau kaha.

Relationships are important to Māori and when built over time on trust and from trust endures mana. From mana there is effort over and above what is required.

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He Pu Harakeke
He Pa Harakeke
He Pūkotahitanga

From the depths of my homelands.
We join in collaboration.
Creating unity, honouring diversity.

ROOPUU

Amokura Panoho (co-Chair), Poata Watene (co-Chair), Dr Maria Baker, Dr Moana Eruera, Kim Eriksen-Downs, Lorraine Hawke, Hera Pierce, Professor Denise Wilson, Tā Mark Solomon, Katie Murray, Denise Messiter.



Appointed by Cabinet in 2022 for a term of 3 years.

Role to provide independent advice directly to the Minister for the Prevention of Family and Sexual Violence on the direction and decisions of Te Aorerekura concerning the needs of whānau, hapū, and hapori Māori.

Diverse membership. Eleven members representing a cross-section of voices and perspectives including deep practitioner knowledge, iwi, hapū and research.

TE PŪKOTAHITANGA: A HISTORY

Where we've come from...

Te Pūkotahitanga traces its history back to the Interim Te Rōpū (ITR), established in 2018 by Under Secretary Jan Logie to embed Māori leadership and kaupapa Māori approaches in the development of Aotearoa's first national strategy to eliminate family violence and sexual violence. Before completing their term in February 2021, the ITR published their strategy Te Hau Tangata which became a critical source material for the later development of Te Aorerekura - the national strategy for eliminating family and sexual violence.

Since 2020, a collective of tangata whenua kaimahi started to gather regularly online through the COVID-19 pandemic. In March 2021, this rōpū came together at Pipitea Marae, where they met with Minister Marama Davidson and Andrew Kibblewhite (Chair of Te Puna Aonui Interdepartment Executive Board). They called for an enduring, independent Māori advisory body - one that would speak directly to Ministers, not through the filter of officials.

From this call, Te Pūkotahitanga was born, under the leadership of Minister Davidson in June 2022. Our role to provide the Minister with independent advice on the impacts and elimination of family and sexual violence for whānau, hāpu, iwi and hapori Māori and guide the implementation of Te Aorerekura. Our members were selected through a tikanga-led, transparent process, guided by the Kaitiaki Rōpū (a small group of kaimahi Māori), to ensure the group reflected the depth and diversity of Māori leadership across Aotearoa.

Since December 2023, Te Pūkotahitanga has advised Minister Karen Chhour. The three-year term of Te Pūkotahitanga came to an end on 30 June 2025.

CO-CHAIRS' FORWARD

Family violence and sexual violence are among the leading drivers of health and social inequities in Aotearoa New Zealand, with Māori disproportionately affected. These harms are rooted in intergenerational violence and trauma and compounded by structural factors such as colonisation, racism, poverty, and systemic underinvestment in kaupapa Māori solutions. Despite the demonstrated effectiveness of Māori-led approaches, Māori continue to face barriers accessing culturally safe services-and the workforce equipped to deliver them remains under-supported.

For these reasons, it is vital that tangata whenua have a voice in the decisions made by the Crown and its agencies that so deeply impact on our people.

This final report is a record of the mahi undertaken by our Rōpū over the past three years. It documents not only what has been achieved, but also reflects our hope: that this work will mobilise and inspire ongoing action. We encourage others to pick up where we leave off - to continue advocating for our communities and to hold Government accountable for improved outcomes for our whānau.

Our primary role has been to provide independent advice to the Minister for the Prevention of Family and Sexual Violence. Aotearoa New Zealand is unique in establishing such a ministerial portfolio - the only country in the world to do so.

Over our term, we served under two Ministers and two successive Governments - first under Minister Marama Davidson (Sixth Labour-led Government), and later under Minister Karen Chhour (Sixth National-led Government). Both have held the portfolio as Ministers outside Cabinet and as members of non-lead parties within coalition or cooperation arrangements. This positioning signals cross-party recognition of the importance of the kaupapa, while also presenting both challenges and opportunities for influence.

We acknowledge the leadership of both Ministers - for the time they dedicated to engaging with our Rōpū and for creating space for community voices to be heard. As wāhine Māori, their presence and leadership highlight the pivotal role Māori women continue to play in driving progress toward the elimination of family violence and sexual violence across Aotearoa.

As our time ends, we most importantly mihi to all whānau and to the kaimahi working tirelessly at the flax roots to support them. Your strength, your aroha, and your unwavering commitment are what truly drive this kaupapa forward.

Amokura Panoho and Poata Watene
Co-Chairs, Te Pūkotahitanga

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

What was achieved

During its three-year term (June 2022 - June 2025), Te Pūkotahitanga provided independent tangata whenua-led advice to the Minister for the Prevention of Family and Sexual Violence, championing the voices of whānau Māori and advocating for system change. Despite the evolving political environment, the Rōpū remained steadfast in its commitment to embedding te ao Māori perspectives across the implementation of Te Aorerekura.

Key achievements included:

- Release of *A Litany of Sound Revisited* - a powerful compendium of Māori knowledge and lived experience, highlighting the complexity of violence within whānau and providing culturally grounded insights to guide systemic change.
- Development of the *Toiora Whānau Māori Outcomes Framework* - a comprehensive monitoring tool co-designed with Wai Rangahau to track wellbeing outcomes for Māori. Piloted during the Rōpū's term, the framework is now being rolled out to support kaupapa Māori providers nationwide.
- Delivery of a National Kaimahi Māori Research Report in partnership with Te Rau Ora - gathering essential workforce insights to inform strategies for a more sustainable and supported Māori workforce in the sector.
- Growth of *Matatuhi*, a national Māori practitioner collective - fostering a safe and inclusive space for kaimahi Māori, enabling peer support, mātauranga sharing, and the strengthening of Māori leadership and wellbeing across the workforce.
- Two regional wānanga series - amplifying the voices of communities to government, and capturing regional strengths, challenges and aspirations. These are reflected throughout the final report as a valuable resource for future policy and decision-making.
- Strengthened relationships across the sector - including with Chief Executives of Te Puna Aonui agencies, iwi leaders, kaupapa Māori providers, researchers, and cross-sector initiatives. These relationships expanded the reach and impact of the Rōpū's advice to the government.

These initiatives reflect a collective commitment to transformation grounded in tikanga Māori and the lived experiences of whānau and those working alongside them.

In June 2025, we invested in the Iwi Leaders Group Pou Tangata to work alongside Te Puna Aonui and Netsafe to map the Māori online harm ecosystem. This project will identify key actors, services, harms, and policy settings to inform a coordinated kaupapa Māori response to digital threats.

Māori, particularly wāhine and rangatahi, face disproportionate levels of online harm, including cyberstalking, image-based abuse, and grooming. Many feel unsafe online and are less likely to report abuse due to systemic distrust.

This mapping will strengthen the evidence base and help build networks for a more proactive, Māori-led approach to digital safety and wellbeing.

What barriers were faced

Our tenure was not without challenges. The term of Te Pūkotahitanga spanned from June 2022 to June 2025, overlapping with a general election and the formation of a new government. This required a reset of relationships and priorities, and time to build new trust and understanding with an incoming Minister.

Throughout our term, visibility into implementation efforts by Te Puna Aonui agencies remained limited, and regular access to the Interdepartmental Executive Board (IEB) did not materialise as anticipated. These barriers constrained our ability to effectively monitor progress and offer timely course corrections.

Further compounding these issues, the Te Puna Aonui Business Unit underwent two restructures, including changes to executive leadership and the loss of key contacts. The disestablishment of two Māori Chief Advisor roles disrupted continuity in engagement and reduced institutional memory of the partnership. These structural shifts made it increasingly difficult to influence and track the system-level changes Te Pūkotahitanga was tasked with monitoring.

What needs to happen next

Our advice to future governments

As this chapter of Te Pūkotahitanga comes to a close, we urge both the current and future Governments to uphold and deepen their commitment to this kaupapa, with Te Tiriti o Waitangi as the enduring foundation for meaningful and sustained transformation.

We continue to advocate for Crown accountability to Māori through the establishment of enduring partnerships defined by Māori, for Māori, with Māori and an unwavering commitment to achieving equitable outcomes for Māori,

To ensure the ongoing impact of this kaupapa, we recommend:

- Establishing a permanent or enduring form of tangata whenua leadership that is embedded within the machinery of government - not as an advisory voice alone, but as an equal and empowered Te Tiriti partner with influence over strategic decisions, priorities and investments.
- Ensuring future iterations of Te Pūkotahitanga or its successor body are given adequate lead-in time, secure multi-year resourcing, clear terms of reference, and dedicated secretariat support. Selection processes should continue to be tikanga-led to maintain integrity and ensure appropriate Māori representation.
- Supporting the implementation and formal recognition of the Toiora Whānau Māori Outcomes Framework as a tool of equal standing to the Outcomes and Monitoring Framework. This would enable better tracking of progress for Māori and support kaupapa Māori providers to demonstrate their impact.
- Shifting decision-making power and resources to communities, in line with Te Aorerekura's vision of collective ownership. This includes investing in kaupapa Māori prevention and healing approaches, and recognising community expertise as central to system transformation.

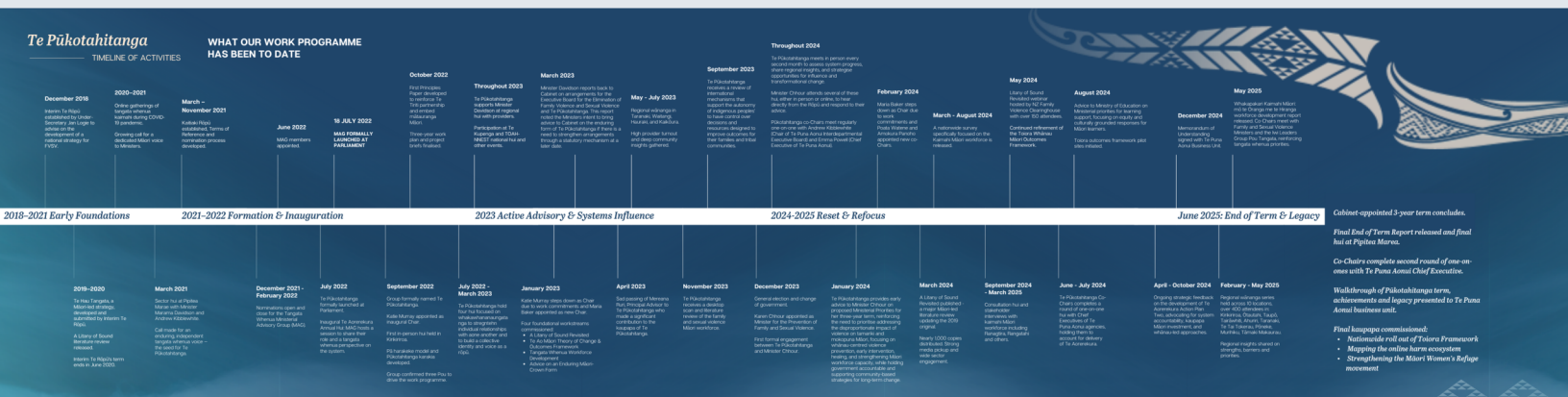
- Strengthening the Māori workforce, including through long-term investment in workforce development, leadership pathways, and wellbeing support for kaimahi Māori across the sector.
- Creating formal pathways for tangata whenua voices to inform key decisions, including Budget processes and ministerial priorities. Mechanisms must ensure visibility, access, and influence - not subject to the political environment or changing alliances of the government of the day.

We also acknowledge the tabling of the final report of the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care, and the disproportionate number of Māori tamariki taken into state care between the 1950s and 1999. The impact of these removals - on individual lives, whānau, hapū and iwi - the reverberations of which continue to be felt today through the intergenerational trauma that remains unaddressed by the Crown.

The recommendations of the Royal Commission must be taken seriously and implemented in full, including:

- The dismantling of Oranga Tamariki and the implementation of a monitoring function to provide oversight of Governments care and protection system,
- devolving care and protection to whānau, hapū, iwi, and hapori and;
- implementing a redress system that takes accurate account of the harm inflicted on all tamariki taken into care.

True change will come when our people have unfettered access to their whakapapa, whenua, and mātauranga tuku iho. Only then will we see the intergenerational transmission of violence and trauma brought to an end - and our mokopuna and future generations truly thrive.



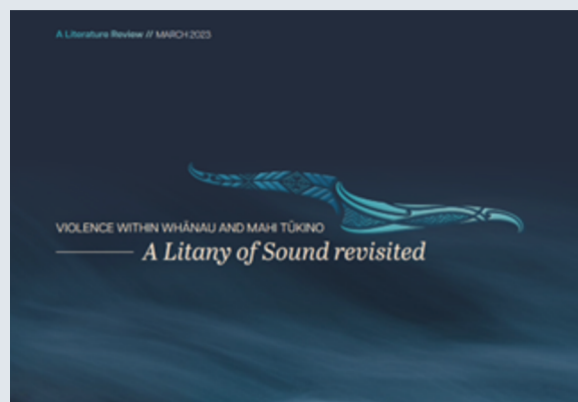
VIOLENCE WITHIN WHĀNAU AND MAHI TŪKINO

A Litany of Sound revisited

Released in November 2023, *Violence within Whānau and Mahi Tūkino – A Litany of Sound Revisited* is a significant Māori-led literature review that explores the lived realities of whānau Māori experiencing violence and sexual violation. It updates and extends the original 2019 A Litany of Sound report, which informed Interim Te Rōpū, the predecessor to Te Pūkotahitanga.

This publication provides vital insight into:

- The historical and contemporary contexts of violence within whānau Māori, shaped by colonisation, social marginalisation, racism, and structural violence.
- The importance of kaupapa Māori and te ao Māori solutions to break intergenerational cycles of harm.
- The disproportionate burden of violence carried by Māori and the need for system-wide responses grounded in Māori knowledge and practice.



The review was guided by six key questions, exploring pre-colonial violence prevention, current challenges, pathways to wellbeing, the evidence base for kaupapa Māori approaches, and gaps in knowledge.

Three priority areas for future investment were identified:

- 1. Monitoring and Review:** Establishing a Māori-led measurement framework to track whānau outcomes under Te Aorerekura.
- 2. Prevention and Healing:** Building the evidence base for effective kaupapa Māori and te ao Māori approaches.
- 3. Workforce Capacity:** Growing a skilled, culturally grounded Māori workforce to respond to whānau impacted by violence and mahi tūkino.

The publication received broad engagement, with nearly 1,000 copies distributed and significant media coverage. A webinar hosted by the New Zealand Family Violence Clearinghouse was attended by over 150 people, reinforcing sector interest in kaupapa Māori approaches and identifying a need for greater rangatahi voice and deeper kōrero on te ao Māori solutions.

This resource is now considered essential for policymakers and practitioners seeking to support culturally effective, evidence-informed responses to violence experienced by Māori.

Read the full document: A Litany of Sound Revisited [here](#)

TOIORA WHĀNAU MĀORI OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK

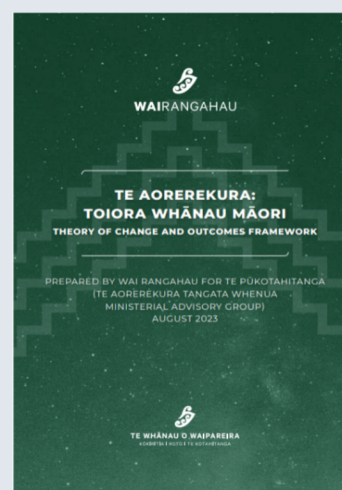
A Kaupapa Māori Outcomes Measurement Tool

The Toiora Whānau Māori Outcomes Framework is a kaupapa Māori outcomes measurement tool developed to track the progress of *Te Aorerekura* - Aotearoa New Zealand's national strategy to eliminate family violence and sexual violence within a generation. Developed with the support of Wai Rangahau, the framework is grounded in mātauranga Māori and designed to capture the holistic wellbeing of Māori whānau (*toiora*), while upholding Mana Motuhake-the autonomy and self-determination of whānau, hapū, iwi, and hāpori Māori.

The framework is currently in the pilot and refinement phase, with two sites - Te Whāriki Mana Wāhine o Hauraki and Ngāpuhi Iwi Social Services - serving as tuakana to help shape and localise the framework. These sites co-developed local theories of change and outcome measures that reflect their community aspirations and realities. This localised approach ensures that whānau and providers see themselves in the framework, enhancing relevance, ownership, and cultural integrity.

The theory of change underpinning the framework was developed by Professor Denise Wilson in collaboration with other kaupapa Māori research and evaluation experts. It was also informed by the Litany of Sound Revisited. As such, it draws from mātauranga Māori and Māori-led expertise in the areas of whānau violence and sexual violence.

Toiora is more than a measurement tool-it is a vehicle for transformation. It provides a mechanism for Māori providers to demonstrate their impact in ways that are meaningful to their communities and aligned with Māori worldviews. It also enables government to track progress toward equity and outcomes that matter to whānau Māori. The next stage involves national rollout and additional wānanga focusing on identified gaps, including Oranga ā Tāne (the wellbeing of Māori men) and Oranga ā Kaumātua (the wellbeing of Māori elders). This work will help strengthen provider capability and respond to the increasing government emphasis on social investment by ensuring that Māori approaches are visible, measurable, and resourced accordingly.



NATIONAL KAIMAHI MĀORI RESEARCH REPORT

Whakapakari Kaimahi Māori: mō te Oranga me te Hiranga

This workforce development report outlines evidence-informed recommendations to strengthen and sustain the Māori family violence and sexual violence (FVSV) workforce. This work contributes directly to *Shift Three* of *Te Aorerekura* - building a skilled, culturally competent, and sustainable workforce.

Commissioned by Te Pūkotahitanga and led by Te Rau Ora, the research draws on a literature review, online survey, and a series of consultation hui with over 250 Māori kaimahi across the motu. It provides an in-depth look at the current state, strengths, and systemic challenges facing the Māori FVSV workforce.

Key findings include:

- **Workforce stress and under-resourcing:** Kaimahi Māori are overworked, underpaid, and under-recognised-despite holding high levels of formal and cultural expertise.
- **Cultural safety gaps:** Whānau Māori, especially in rural areas, continue to face barriers accessing culturally safe, responsive services, contributing to poor outcomes and disengagement.
- **Lack of investment and systemic barriers:** There has been limited, inconsistent investment in workforce development. Kaimahi face fragmented funding environments, siloed systems, and few leadership pathways.
- **Sector breadth and experience:** The FVSV Māori workforce spans multiple sectors. It is highly experienced, deeply committed, and works primarily out of aroha and a sense of responsibility to whānau, rather than financial incentive.

The report affirms earlier findings in *A Litany of Sound Revisited* and recent regional wānanga, which have underscored the value of Māori-led responses, the need to recognise lived and professional expertise beyond formal qualifications, and the importance of strengthening local leadership and support structures.

Key recommendations to Government include:

- Establishing and resourcing a dedicated entity to lead a national Māori FVSV workforce strategy;
- Developing nationally recognised credentials and culturally grounded practice standards;
- Creating a centralised accreditation and workforce monitoring system;
- Investing in cultural supervision, kaimahi wellbeing, and development pathways, including micro-credentials.

Recommendations are also directed to iwi, hapū, and communities, acknowledging their critical roles in fostering sustainable, safe, and empowering environments for kaimahi Māori.

This report provides a pathway to elevate, protect, and enable the Māori FVSV workforce-recognising that the wellbeing of kaimahi is inextricably linked to the wellbeing of whānau.

MATATUHI

A National Kaimahi Māori Collective

Matatuhi is a Māori-led initiative established to uplift, connect, and sustain kaimahi Māori working in the family and sexual violence (FVSV) sector. Emerging from extensive regional wānanga across Aotearoa, Matatuhi responds to long-standing calls for a dedicated, culturally grounded space that nurtures the wellbeing, development, and leadership of kaimahi Māori.

Matatuhi is the response to a number of key challenges faced by the sector, including:

- A significant shortage of kaimahi Māori to meet community needs;
- An ageing, predominantly female workforce, many of whom are highly qualified but remain low-paid and undervalued;
- Inequitable access to quality supervision (clinical and cultural), professional development, and wellbeing supports;
- Structural racism within predominantly Pākehā-led systems and peak bodies;
- A lack of representation in decision-making forums that shape sector strategy and funding.

These pressures contribute to high rates of burnout and workforce attrition, placing cultural knowledge, leadership, and long-term sector resilience at risk. Retaining and strengthening this workforce is critical to achieving equity and eliminating FVSV for whānau Māori.

Matatuhi seeks to address these systemic issues by:

- Providing a Māori-led, kaupapa Māori space designed *by, with, and for* kaimahi Māori;
- Enabling peer connection, collective support, and the exchange of mātauranga;
- Supporting cultural and professional development through wānanga, leadership opportunities, and resource sharing;
- Advocating for equitable investment in the Māori workforce and culturally responsive approaches across the wider FVSV system.

Matatuhi distinguishes itself from mainstream peak bodies by being tino rangatiratanga-led and embedded in the lived experiences, aspirations, and mana of kaimahi Māori. While other sector leadership groups may claim to operate in a Te Tiriti-consistent manner, kaimahi have consistently expressed feeling marginalised or unheard in these spaces.

Matatuhi is not just a network-it is a transformative response to systemic inequities. It is a vital infrastructure for sustaining a resilient, culturally confident Māori workforce capable of delivering effective, healing solutions for whānau Māori. In doing so, it supports the broader aims of Te Aorerekura and contributes to the long-term goal of eliminating family and sexual violence in Aotearoa.





Feb - May 2025 *Regional Wānanga Series*

10

National Locations
Facilitated Wānanga Across Aotearoa

415

People in Attendance
Engaged & contributed to kōrero

105

Organisations Represented
Iwi, kaupapa Māori providers, community groups & government agencies

Valuable insights, learning and whanaungatanga occurred through a series of ten regional wānanga across the motu in early 2025. This built on an earlier series of regional wānanga in 2023 with Iwi, kaimahi and mana whenua in Kīakoura, Hauraki, Taranaki and Waitangi.

Participation varied across the motu due to several factors including regional capacity, concurrent kaupapa, and existing networks. Notably, Te Tai Tokerau had particularly high attendance, reflecting both the established relationships in that region and the complementary investment in local Māori workforce initiatives (such as Kaimahi Toiora Te Tai Tokerau). In other regions, variations in turnout were influenced by community readiness, timing of hui, and differing levels of engagement with Te Pūkotahitanga to date. These nuances are important to consider when interpreting the reach and insights gathered through the wānanga series.

WHAT WE HEARD FROM OUR COMMUNITIES

We have a lot of existing strengths to draw from in this mahi, including:

- Kaupapa Māori is the foundation: Whakapapa, tikanga, whanaungatanga, wānanga and mātauranga Māori are central to effective responses.
- Healing is grounded in: Marae | Te taiao | Whenua | Toi Māori | Pūrākau | Reo | Mara kai | Rongoā | Traditional practices
- Kaimahi are the heart: Our kaimahi are passionate, resilient, and deeply connected within our communities.
- Collaboration works when Māori-led: Strong networks exist between Māori providers, iwi, NGOs, and some agencies.
- Grounded in: Manaakitanga and Kotahitanga
- The future lies with rangatahi: We must nurture leadership and succession to sustain kaupapa Māori responses into the future.

But we also face persistent barriers and challenges:

- Funding models undermine Māori-led solutions: Short-term, inequitable, and prescriptive funding constrains Māori-led solutions. Funding favours mainstream providers and drives competition over collaboration. Mainstream services often fail to value and deliver kaupapa Māori approaches.
- Kaimahi are burning out: Kaimahi are overworked, underpaid, and under-recognised. Burnout is common, with few pathways for kaimahi ora or succession. Lived experience, aroha and whakapapa matter most - but barriers block whānau from giving back.
- Systemic discrimination persists: Colonisation, land loss, war and disrupted whakapapa underpin violence, trauma and disconnection and socio-economic disenfranchisement. Whānau face racism and exclusion across justice, health and social systems.
- Whānau face compounding pressures: Whānau are grappling with homelessness, housing insecurity, unemployment, substance abuse, mental health challenges, social media harms, and financial stress. This is further compounded by inappropriate and inadequate service responses.

But we are clear on what the priorities for action are:

- **Equitable investment in Kaupapa Māori:** Ensure sustained and equitable funding for kaupapa Māori solutions.
- **Whānau, hapū, iwi, & hapori autonomy:** Invest in long-term, safe spaces for healing that reconnect whānau to whakapapa, whenua, and identity. Support whānau to lead their own transformation journeys out of violence, addiction, and poverty.
- **Devolved funding with high-trust contracting:** Shift to locally led, whānau-centred funding models based on trust. Enable holistic wellbeing and support outcomes defined by whānau.
- **A sustainable Māori workforce:** Grow and sustain the Māori workforce through succession planning, pay equity, and kaimahi toiora. Value mātauranga Māori, whakapapa, and lived experience alongside formal education.
- **Kotahitanga:** Foster deeper collaboration, resource sharing, and collective action among Māori providers. Lift each other up to achieve a stronger, unified impact for whānau.

Our heartfelt thanks to all the kaimahi who shared their time and knowledge in these wānanga - your voice is a taonga, your voice carries mana.



Te Pūkotahitanga
2025 Regional
Wānanga Series

System barriers to effective monitoring and influence

Shift two of Te Aorerekura builds collective ownership for solutions, support and resources for whānau Māori and their communities. Shift two also requires government to build and maintain high-trust, collaborative and respectful relationships with tangata whenua. And where possible, to devolve decisions and funding to communities to support and deliver the services and supports tangata whenua need and have requested.

Te Pūkotahitanga was established to uphold Te Tiriti o Waitangi by providing a tangata whenua-led mechanism to monitor and advise on the implementation of Te Aorerekura. Our role was intended to ensure a consistent te ao Māori perspective in strategic decision-making and to improve outcomes for Māori affected by family violence and sexual violence.

However, during our tenure, systemic and structural barriers limited our ability to fully exercise this role. These barriers are summarised below and are offered as key learnings and recommendations for future Māori-Crown arrangements.

Key System Barriers

- **Undefined Monitoring Role:** While Cabinet directed a monitoring function for Te Pūkotahitanga [SWC-21-MIN-0197], this was never operationalised. There was no formalised process for receiving regular implementation updates, and limited access to the Interdepartmental Executive Board (IEB) to inform timely advice. Te Pūkotahitanga lacked the status or powers of an independent monitor, in that it was not a departmental agency, or Independent Crown Agency and was not mandated by any Act in law. The main mechanism for Te Pūkotahitanga to influence change was through its provision of advice to Ministers and other key decision makers.
- **Disrupted Relationships and Instability:** Ongoing restructuring and personnel changes within the Te Puna Aonui Business Unit led to the loss of key relationships. This weakened trust, disrupted continuity, and hindered effective collaboration.
- **Inadequate Measures for Māori Outcomes:** The Te Aorerekura Outcomes and Monitoring Framework (OMF) does not adequately reflect or measure outcomes for whānau Māori. A kaupapa Māori approach—such as the Toiora Whānau Māori Outcomes Framework—is needed to meaningfully track progress and guide system improvements.
- **Lack of Enduring Status:** As a Ministerial Advisory Group, Te Pūkotahitanga lacked permanence and structural protection. We were disbanded without a further term, reflecting the vulnerability of tangata whenua-led mechanisms under changing political conditions. This undermines Te Tiriti-based partnership and limits Māori influence in system-level decisions.
- **Limited Influence in Decision-Making:** Te Pūkotahitanga was not enabled to participate in Budget processes or high-level strategy development, despite Shift Two of Te Aorerekura calling for shared decision-making, high-trust relationships, and the devolution of resources to communities.



RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on these barriers, we recommend that future Māori-Crown arrangements:

1. Clarify and enable a robust monitoring role, including role clarity, access to data, reporting, and decision-makers.
2. Elevate and resource the Toiora Framework as a kaupapa Māori tool to sit alongside the OMF.
3. Establish a permanent and independent tangata whenua mechanism embedded within the machinery of government to protect its continuity and influence.
4. Formalise arrangements between any future Māori-Crown partnership group and the IEB eg through a letter of expectations. While the IEB has a mandate to be responsive to Māori, the absence of specific measures within the OMF for meeting these obligations makes it difficult to ensure they are being fulfilled effectively. To address this, we recommend that new IEB accountability measures should be developed, drawing on the Toiora Framework.
5. Ensure access to Budget discussions and strategic decisions, in line with Te Tiriti commitments and the aspirations of whānau Māori.

These steps are essential to ensure tangata whenua can continue to play a meaningful, enduring role in the elimination of family and sexual violence and in realising oranga for whānau Māori.

WHO WE ARE AND WHY WE ARE

Te Pūkotahitanga Ministerial Advisory Group (MAG) members were selected by an independent tangata whenua led process and began their three-year term from 1 July 2022.



KATIE MURRAY (CHAIR SEPTEMBER 2022 – JANUARY 2023)

Katie Murray has served her whānau, hapū, iwi and hāpori Māori in Herekino, Kaitaia and the wider Te Tai Tokerau rohe for 40 years. She has been the Kaiārahi (Chief Executive) of Waitomo Papakainga Development Society Inc since 1993, a social service organisation she established with her whānau for her whānau, to support and protect the institute of whānau.

Katie is an innovator, activist, collaborator and acknowledged leader in te rohe o Te Tai Tokerau. She has spent her life fighting covert and overt racism, striving to create better opportunities for communities and empowering whānau. Her work is grounded in te ao Māori, with years of experience supporting whānau through whanaungatanga, facilitating and developing practical programmes enriched in values such as aroha, tika, pono. Katie Murray is passionate, and her life's work is sustained, above all else, by her immense love for her children, mokopuna and whānau.



DR MARIA BAKER (CO-CHAIR JANUARY 2023 – FEBRUARY 2024)

Dr Maria Baker is a leader and Māori health professional with over 20 years of experience and expertise in health, mental health and social care workforce development for Māori. She is a strategic and critical thinker whose work and research are grounded in te ao Māori and focused on enhancing Māori wellbeing. Dr Baker has strong relationships in Te Tai Tokerau, at national levels and internationally with indigenous communities.

Dr Baker has been the Chief Executive of Te Rau Ora – Strengthening Health and Wellbeing since 2017 and understands the power of collaboration and the Māori collective.



DR MOANA ERUERA (CO-CHAIR JANUARY 2023 – FEBRUARY 2024)

Dr Moana Eruera has more than 30-years' experience in social and community work, including in family violence prevention, statutory child protection and youth justice, social work education and iwi social services sectors. She has committed her professional career to strengthening whānau, tamariki and rangatahi Māori safety and wellbeing and development and the application of tangata whenua frameworks and practices in social work and community work.

Dr Moana Eruera has had professional roles in government and iwi organisations that have supported her critical understanding of the tensions and barriers that impede meaningful design and implementation of policies, strategies and practices for Māori. She lives within the Ngāpuhi rohe, actively working with her own whānau, hapū and marae and has a fluency and working knowledge of te reo me ōna tikanga.



POATA WATENE (CO-CHAIR FEBRUARY 2024 – JUNE 2025)

Poata Watene is a visionary leader committed to his iwi, hapū, He ringa raupaa a Poata noo roto mai o Waikato. Ko teeraa hononga oona, he uri noo Ngaiterangi. He tangata e maarama ana ki te wairua Māori me ngoona aahuatanga katoa i roto i ngaa mahi tuukino. He kaingaki maara, e matatau ana ki te reo mirimiri, aa, ko taana noa, he ngaki i te maara kia matomato anoo ai te tupu. He taane teenei e whakapono ana ki te kaupapa. Koia ko te mutunga mai o te ngaakau marae.



AMOKURA PANOHO (CO-CHAIR FEBRUARY 2024 – JUNE 2025)

Amokura PanoHo is a recognised leader and change agent in the Māori economic development sector and has extensive governance experience. She has a background in community development and investing in the facilitation of community-based solutions. She also has prior experience working with young people, gangs and in the judicial system.

Amokura has been involved in the development of Māori services (including in the family violence and sexual violence sector), migrant services and has been an active leader for whānau, hapū and iwi initiatives.



KIM ERIKSEN-DOWNS

Kim Eriksen-Downs is a frontline practitioner with more than 30 years' experience in the social services sector, supporting rangatahi, wāhine and tāne Māori to heal from family violence and sexual violence. She is a national trainer who teaches practitioners indigenous ways of working, a qualified social worker, a renowned Kaiako-a-Kaupapa Senior Facilitator, and the founder of Kaituruki Ora o Te Hapori Ora – the Village of Wellbeing.

Kim is a specialist who celebrates and values community mobilisation and co-design to transform all types of violation. She has transformed her Tūwharetoa community at the grassroots level. Kim Eriksen-Downs is an acknowledged leader whose influential mahi and commitment to Māori wellbeing is validated by her whānau, hapū and iwi.



PROFESSOR DENISE WILSON

Professor Denise Wilson is a Māori researcher with more than 30 years' experience, whose work aims to improve understanding of systems and policy changes required to prevent family violence and address the harm it creates for Māori. Her own lived experience informs her empathetic and insightful understanding of wāhine and mokopuna Māori living with whānau violence.

Professor Denise Wilson uses kaupapa Māori and indigenous approaches to research to provide whānau opportunities to share their stories in the hope that their voices will be heard by decision and policy makers and compel them to make the changes necessary to improve outcomes for tangata whenua. She has had leadership roles in government advisory groups (including the Family Violence Death Review Committee) and is currently the Co-Director of Taupua Waiora Centre for Māori Research and the Associate Dean for Māori advanced at the Auckland University of Technology.



LORRAINE HAWKE

Lorraine Hawke has spent more than 40-years developing grassroots strategies to eliminate sexual violence (and the underlying drivers) within her whānau, hapū and Kaikōura community. Her courageous leadership, advocacy and innovative whānau ora approach informed the development of Tū Pono: Te Mana Kaha o te Whānau, a strategy to eliminate violence across Te Wai Pounamu.

Lorraine Hawke has first-hand experience of the need for comprehensive approaches, long-term support and championing environments that are culturally conducive and systemically safe for Māori.



HERA PIERCE

Hera Pierce is recognised by tangata whenua and tauwi as a subject matter expert on the impacts of family violence and sexual violence for whānau and hapori Māori. Her knowledge, expertise and practice epitomise the values and principles which are fundamental to Māori healing from the trauma of violence and achieving toiora.

Hera is passionate about working with whānau, hapū iwi and hapori Māori and strives to teach current and future generations about the importance and sacredness of te ira tangata, te ira Atua, te whare tangata and whakapapa. She uses her wealth of mātauranga Māori, fluency in te reo me ōna tikanga Māori to provide services and supports that are relevant and meet the needs of whānau, hapū and iwi.



TĀ MARK SOLOMON

Tā Mark Solomon is a respected Māori leader and agent of change for tangata whenua. He has had pivotal roles in regional (for Ngāi Tahu) and national (including through the Iwi Leaders Forum) tangata whenua-led bodies and has used his experience and knowledge of government systems, processes, and policy development to advocate for and effect change at government and community levels (including through the Interim Te Rōpū, Te Ohu Kaimoana and Oranga Tamariki).

Tā Mark Solomon's commitment to his iwi is equally matched by his commitment to and compassion for his own whānau, hapū and hapori. He is a tireless and fearless champion of the need for real accountability by both government and Māori.



DENISE MESSITER ONZM

Denise Messiter is a strategic, assertive, and analytical practitioner with over 30 years' knowledge and experience in the family violence, sexual violence and social sectors. She has focused on developing and implementing indigenous solutions and worked tirelessly to support wāhine and their whānau to heal from the impacts of mahi tūkino.

Her efforts to ensure whānau, hapū and iwi in Hauraki have access to enduring tangata whenua owned and led social services, has made her a valued member of her iwi Māori community of Manaia.

Denise has extensive and comprehensive networks across the health, social and tangata whenua communities. She is compassionate, understands her people and her work has made real and positive differences to the social and economic wellbeing of whānau Māori nationally, regionally and in her community.



OVERVIEW

Te Pūkotahitanga work products and funding

In Budget 2021, the government committed \$1.950 million per year for four years to support Māori-Crown relationship arrangements. This is intended to resource tangata whenua to have an ongoing relationship with the Crown and contribute advice directly to the Government.

This funding specifically supports our member fees and other approved expenses, secretariat support, costs for hui/wānanga, and the commissioning of research and other projects as we determine is needed to enable us to provide independent advice to you. Although we, the Rōpū determine how the funding is utilised within the scope of the appropriation, financial authority for the \$1.950 million funding has been delegated to the Chief Executive, Te Puna Aonui.

The table below summaries the key projects progressed by Te Pūkotahitanga during its term.

2021/2022 Financial Year

In 2021/22, Te Puna Aonui spent \$0.826 million from the Māori-Crown relationship fund. This included funding for the projects below as well as fees for the Kaitiaki Rōpū and secretariat. There was an underspend of \$1.100 million due to delays with Cabinet approval and member appointments.

Project Title	Description	Provider	Dates	Status	Cost
Waitomo Papakainga	Kaupapa Māori evaluation of te ao Māori-based strategies used to support whānau Māori affected by violence.	Waitomo Papakainga	30/05/2022-30/06/2022	Completed	0.100
He Whare Wāhine	Enabling development of a proactive, tikanga-based workforce to better meet the needs of wāhine Māori.	Te Rau Ora	01/05/2022-30/06/2022	Completed	0.080

Provider		Dates	Status	Cost
Te Pūtahitanga o Te Waipounamu		1/05/2022-31/07/2022	Completed	0.400
Project Title	Description			
Project 1: Increased capacity for healing, professional development and workshops	Work with Tū Pono: Te Mana Kaha o te Whānau (Tū Pono) connectors to identify support that enables healing and recovery, and to adopt ways of working based on an understanding of trauma.			
Project 2: Tū Pono evaluation	Inform a review of the Tū Pono approach, to guide changes and modify the framework, as and where required.			
Project 3: Resources for Whakatokia te Kakano o te Hā (Whakatokia)	Allow Tū Pono kaimahi to become familiar with the Whakatokia resources and training ahead of delivery to whānau Māori in July 2022.			
Project 4: Workforce development relationships	Strengthen the workforce across Te Waipounamu in order to implement Tū Pono.			

2022/23 Financial Year

In 2022/23, Te Puna Aonui spent \$1.163 million from the \$1.950 million total fund. This included \$0.657 million for the five projects below. The rest paid for members' fees, travel, accommodation and secretariat functions. Because Te Pūkōtahitanga members were not appointed until June 2022, there was an underspend of \$0.787 million this financial year.

Project Title	Description	Provider	Dates	Status	Cost
Update of literature review	Update the literature review (Litany of Sound) prepared for Interim Te Rōpū in 2018/2019. The literature review outlined what is known about family violence and sexual violence for whānau Māori.	Dr Denise Wilson	1/03/2022-31/05/2022	Completed	0.035
Tender communities research symposium	Bring social service agency partners, invited experts and survivors together (for two days) to create a strategy for future-proofing tamariki mokopuna wellbeing.	Tuu Oho Mai Services	1/05/2022-30/06/2022	Completed	0.022
Synthesis of information	Kaupapa Māori evaluation of te ao Māori-based strategies and solutions to the transformation of violation and whānau violence being used by Te Hapori Ora. The funding would evaluate the impact Te Hapori Ora were having within their community.	Te Hapori Ora	30/05/2022-31/07/2022	Completed	0.100
Tangata whenua workforce strategy	Develop a tangata whenua workforce strategy/plan.	Te Rau Ora	05/06/2023-31/12/2024	Underway	0.250
Te ao Māori theory of change and outcomes framework	Development of a te ao Māori theory of change and outcomes framework and advice on new data collection requirements.	Te Whānau o Waipareira Trust Wai Rangahau	13/06/2023-13/06/2024	Completed	0.250

2023/24 Financial Year

In 2023/24, \$0.923 million was spent across the projects below. Additional costs included members' fees, travel, accommodation and secretariat functions. The underspend was subsequently transferred to a tagged contingency for Project Whetū.

Project Title	Description	Provider	Dates	Status	Cost
Development of policy advice on an enduring Māori Crown form	Development of policy advice for an enduring Māori-Crown form, including what legal form the group should have and how should it be funded to ensure success.	Susan Dawn MoSselen	28/07/2023-30/06/2024	Completed	0.040
Tangata whenua workforce strategy	Develop a tangata whenua workforce strategy/plan.	Te Rau Ora	05/06/2023-31/12/2024	Completed	0.350
Te ao Māori theory of change and outcomes framework	Included development of a te ao Māori theory of change and outcomes framework, advice on new data collection requirements, a pilot in two locations, and implementation resources.	Te Whānau o Waipareira Trust Wai Rangahau	13/06/2023-30/06/2025	Completed	0.248
Matatuhi	Continue to create a space where kaimahi Māori can come together to share insights and mātauranga (knowledge), and be part of a wider whānau of family violence and sexual violence specialists.	Tauranga Women's Collective Incorporated	30/06/2024-30/06/2025	Underway	0.095
Te ao Māori theory of change and outcomes framework	Development of a te ao Māori theory of change and outcomes framework and advice on new data collection requirements.	Te Whānau o Waipareira Trust Wai Rangahau	13/06/2023-13/06/2024	Completed	0.250
Kaimahi Toiora Te Tai Tokerau	Provision of wānanga, supervision and kaimahi toiora activities with a particular focus on needs of local kaumatua/kuia and tāne.	Ngāpuhi Iwi Social Services Limited	30/06/2024-30/06/2025	Completed	0.090
Te Whare o Niwareka: Whare for wāhine evaluation	Kaupapa Māori evaluation of a whare for wāhine and tamariki, which included assessing outcomes and potential return on investment.	Waitomo Papakāinga Development Society Incorporated	30/06/2024-30/06/2025	Completed	0.100

2024/25 Financial Year

As some contract variations are still under execution, we are excited to share final further details as soon as these become available.

**He mea nui te whakawhanaungatanga
ki te Māori, a ki te hanga i te waa i
runga i te whakawhirinaki, mai i te
whakawhirinaki ka mau te mana. Mai i
te mana ka nui ake te whakapau kaha.**

Relationships are important to Māori and
when built over time on trust and from
trust endures mana. From mana there is
effort over and above what is required.



