

## Key Work Items

### Progress on Royal Commission priorities:

#### Ngā Pūrongo - reports

- **Lake Alice Case Study** – the Lake Alice interim report continues to take shape.
- **Faith Interim Report** - Work has continued examining faith-based institutions (Catholic, Anglican and other Christian denominations) and content from the Maryland's investigation and February hearing is being incorporated as part of the draft interim report plan. The project is now focusing on identification of gaps in survivor evidence and ensuring we have a clear understanding of the intersectionalities between faith and other report areas. The scope of the Anglican/Protestant investigation has been clarified, and it has been formally announced that we are investigating abuse in the care of other Protestant faiths in New Zealand - Presbyterian Church, the Methodist Church, the Salvation Army, and associated entities and institutions of those Churches. Survivor voice from religious closed community groups - Gloriavale, Jehovah's Witnesses and Exclusive Brethren will also be included in the Faith Interim report. The main reason for this is that despite our terms of reference being clear we can investigate all faith-based institutions regarding abuse in care, some faith-based institutions were not forthcoming in responding to our notices under section 20 of the Inquiries act as our investigation scopes did not specifically refer to them. This has now been rectified. In addition, we decided this month that Marylands would become a separate case study.
- **Pacific** - Analysis of documentary evidence and evidence gathered through engagements continues at pace. A youth workers fono was held in February as well as interviews with youth with a lived experience of care. Planning is underway for further fono next quarter which will provide information to assist with report drafting, including filling gaps in evidence.
- **Other interim reports** - Work is progressing on the information gathering requests for the Social Welfare report. Engagement is underway with hearing witnesses and expert witnesses for the Foster Care Public Hearing in June and planning for wānanga is in progress. Work progressed this quarter on identifying information required from Crown agencies in relation to the proposed accountability hearing scheduled in August 2022. Good engagement with the Crown Response team continues.

#### Tūhonohono me ngā hāpori – Engagement with survivors and communities

- In February, Te Rūnanga o Ngā Wairiki Ngāti Apa hosted a whakawātea or blessing ceremony of the Lake Alice site. This event was organised and led by some survivors of Lake Alice. The Royal Commission had the privilege of attending the whakawātea as an invited guest. The blessing took place on public land because the landowner did not give permission for the gathering to take place on the former hospital site. The Mayor of Rangitikei District attended and apologised to former patients on behalf of the community.
- 102 survivors provided their stories through a private session or written account. Under the Covid19 traffic light system private sessions have gone ahead face to face as well as online.
- A series of Pacific Fono are underway with the first two held with a focus on mental health and disability. There have also been a series of Community Conversations designed to engage through online forums with people with mental health issues or disabilities. An increase in our advisory engagement is expected to continue next quarter with the establishment of multiple Reference Groups to assist with our thinking on all our interim reports/case studies. The role of reference groups is to review report material and provide feedback to the Inquiry.
- Engagement plans for each report are in development which outline how we engage with iwi and hapū, and cohorts of survivors that we need to hear more from. We are planning ways to engage with communities and regions we haven't heard enough from including a series of roadshows planned for next quarter.
- We continue to meet regularly with our advisory groups - SAGE and Te Taumata – to seek their advice and feedback on key aspects of our work programme and other groups including the Royal Commission Forum and Te Ara Takatū. This will continue to be a key focus for the year ahead.

#### Ngā huihuinga me ngā wānanga – Public hearings and wānanga

- The **Maryland's School case study hearing** was held from 9-17 February to investigate the nature and extent and impacts of abuse that occurred at the Christchurch based Marylands School run by the St John of God brothers. The hearing was held in person, but with many survivors giving evidence via AVL due to Covid. The hearing heard survivor testimony covering: knowledge (of those in leadership within the school), lack of record keeping, the role of the state, the role of the Bishop, the role of Rome (Catholic church governance structures), the barriers to disclosure within faith settings, racism and the lack of transparency in reporting.
- The **Māori Public Hearing** was held from 7-18 March. Māori survivors from around the country, and their whānau, gave evidence of their lived experiences of being abused by state and faith-based institutions. Evidence was presented from rangatahi survivors and multiple generations of whānau, and Māori survivors and advocates provided their vision of what a transformed care system should look like for Māori. The hearing is one part of the wider Māori investigation exploring how Māori in care were abused by the institutions meant to protect them.

#### Kaupapa here me te rangahau – Policy and Research

- Policy and research advice has continued with analysis of 'golden threads' running across reports, analysis of survivors' experiences and filling gaps in data, information and knowledge.

#### Whakawhiti kōrero - Communications

- The focus this quarter has been supporting the delivery and promotion of the Marylands and Māori hearings. A range of media and communications tools were used to connect with survivors and ensure widespread media coverage. Social channels were used for the first time as an effective engagement tool. We had a large focus on creating a range of digital content, including videos, and dedicated a significant amount of time to editing footage particularly for the Māori hearing. Attention now turns to delivering the Foster Care Hearing in June and the Mental Health and Disability Hearing in July and then supporting the delivery of the Lake Alice Case Study.
- This quarter saw a small shift in our focus towards using more digital methods of engagement.

## Insights:

- The two hearings have raised a number of operational policy, legislative and systemic issues including:
  - Inadequate legal redress mechanisms which fail to recognise the breadth of harms (ā-hinengaro, ā-tīnana, ā-wairua, ā-whānau) caused by abuse in care and the meagre redress offered, which has often been inappropriate, reflecting narrow and potentially pathologising views of survivors' needs for healing
  - Lack of awareness, understanding and commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi and human rights mechanisms
  - Lack of cohesion and coordination of supports necessary for those in care
  - State institutions undermining the maintenance of whakapapa
  - Failure of professionals and other people to report or recognise abuse in care
  - Vetting, monitoring, and support of carers
  - Abuse and exploitation of mana wāhine
  - The place of payments to carers
  - Accessibility and navigability of complaints and dispute mechanisms
  - Adoption and privacy legislation undermining the rights of adoptees (including rights to whakapapa and culture), and the way the state uses privacy legislation to create impediments – either by design or through erroneous interpretations for those seeking information about their whānau and whakapapa
  - Nature of care settings allowing for children to be cared for in "prison-like institutional and residential care settings"
  - Policy-to-practice failures
  - Siloed agency operations in relation to information-sharing infrastructure
  - Tikanga and ethical failures by the State and Faith-based institutions

## Risks and Issues

- Covid-19 has continued to impact our work programme this quarter and has had ripple effects across our planned work, including impacting the availability of a number of staff. We are reprioritising where necessary but are concerned about the ongoing wellbeing and work programme impacts.
- Ensuring we obtain enough information and evidence from key cohort areas (Māori, Pacific, disabled peoples, youth, Rainbow, and intersectionalities etc..) remains a risk and we are continuing to increase our focus in these areas. The development of specific engagement plans for each case study, interim report and the final report may assist.
- We have over 1,000 survivors registered who may wish to have a private session. Ensuring that we give all survivors a private session who wish one is challenging. We are in the process of engaging Kaitakawaenga to be able to undertake private sessions on Commissioners behalf. This is a group of individuals that are appropriately qualified to hear survivor accounts.

## Indicators of Effectiveness

Indicators	Progress	Commentary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of survivor registrations and wellbeing sessions this quarter</li> </ul>	Green	133 survivor registrations and 92 private sessions held (10 written accounts provided). 1886 Wellbeing sessions undertaken.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documentary analysis undertaken</li> </ul>	Green	At the end of the reporting period we have engaged with 1,074 witnesses and have completed 679 witness statements. 85,622 documents came in to be analysed bringing the total to 1,026,256. Workload remains heavy and ongoing prioritisation and efficiency measures remain in place.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hearings and wānanga successfully completed within the quarter as planned</li> </ul>	Green	On track
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports and other key deliverables completed as planned within the quarter</li> </ul>	Green	On track. Made some changes to the delivery dates set out in the overall work programme. There are some challenges ahead that we are actively trying to mitigate.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivery of the Inquiry's final report by 30 June 2023</li> </ul>	Green	On track to deliver on time.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivery of the Inquiry's work programme within the budget provided by Government</li> </ul>	Green	On track to deliver within budget. Made some changes to the delivery dates set out in the overall work programme. There are some challenges ahead that we are actively trying to mitigate.

Green: On track    Amber: Off track but impacts mitigated    Red: Off track, and further mitigation required



On track



Off-track, but impacts mitigated

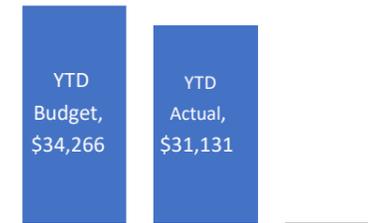


Off-track, and further mitigation required

## Financial Performance

Expenditure year to date (June to March)

### Departmental Expenditure: (000's)

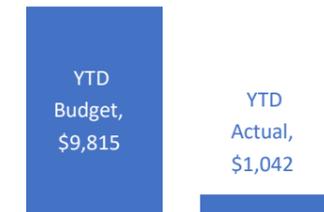


### Non-Departmental Expenditure:

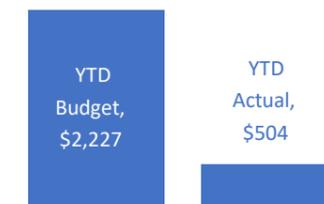
#### Commissioner Fees: (000's)



#### Legal Assistance: (000's)



#### Counselling Assistance: (000's)



#### Capital: (000's)



- Departmental expenditure is currently running 9.2% (\$3.1m) below budget. This takes into account the \$3m transferred from 22/23 FY into the 21/22 FY. Spending has increased in line with forecast. Any underspend will be re-prioritised into contingency to cover expected delivery pressures.

- Commissioner fees are \$1.2m under budget YTD. Costs will increase due to Commissioners being allowed to work up to five days rather than an average of four days. This is offset by the budget assumption of a sixth Commissioner, which is not expected to occur.

- Legal Assistance is currently \$8.7m underbudget YTD. While costs are expected to increase we do not expect to use all the budget.

- Counselling Assistance is currently \$1.7m under budget YTD. The Commission is reviewing its budget to ensure appropriate expenditure has been allocated to this appropriation. The Commission is also exploring other avenues to support survivors and anticipates that the spend will increase over the remainder of the Inquiry.

- There has been no major Capital spend. The actual spend for the year was the final invoice for the Auckland hearing space.