

Royal Commission Report:

1 July 2021 to 30 September 2021

Key Work Items - Progress on Royal Commission priorities:

Ngā Pūrongo - reports

- **Redress Recommendations** – Draft redress recommendations were being finalised for delivery on 1 October to the Minister of Internal Affairs and will be subject to further targeted engagement within the next month. Covid-19 has forced us to revise when and how we engage and the finalisation of our recommendations are affected by this. Online wānanga have commenced and planned for in the next quarter to provide further information to assist with the finalisation of the recommendations.
- **Interim Redress Report** – the interim Report continues to take shape, informed by hearings, roundtables and engagement activities which have taken place throughout the quarter. Due to the Covid related deferment of the Māori hearing and the impact on other engagements that had been planned for, some information and evidence which was due to inform both the draft recommendations and interim Report will be supplemented by information and evidence collated from online wānanga that commenced in the last quarter and will continue into the next quarter.
- **Lake Alice** – The Lake Alice hearing concluded at the beginning of July. The project is now focusing on activities including seeking further information through section 20 Inquiry Act requests and following up on lines of Inquiry coming out of the hearing. Story boarding to assist the case study development is underway.
- **Other interim reports/case studies** – Work continued on inquiries into faith-based institutions (Catholic, Anglican and other Christian denominations) and state care settings. Large numbers of documents were received by the Health and Disability Investigations team to analyse.
- **Analysis of documentary evidence and evidence** – gathered through engagements continues at pace.

Tūhonohono me ngā hāpori – Engagement with communities

- Redress focused wānanga have included a two-day public roundtable in July attended by survivors, their advocates, NGOs, iwi and Māori and State and faith-based institution representatives. We received a submission from a roopū of Māori academics, practitioners and survivors that had held a wānanga on tikanga Māori approaches to redress in July held at the University of Auckland. The submission has informed our redress work and the reset of our operating model. Engagement by Commissioners with the roopū is being planned in the next quarter.
- Successful outreach and engagement with communities and stakeholders has focused on reaching marginalised groups including a hui at Rūaumoko Marae, the only Deaf marae of its kind in the world, and a roadshow of presentations across all Kainga Ora tenancy services in Tamaki Makaurau to increase the awareness of the Inquiry with staff who work with a diverse range of survivors in their communities.
- During the quarter we focused on engaging with Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu relating to redress and the investigation into Maryland's School, a residential school for boys with disabilities in Christchurch operated by the Hospitaller Brothers of the Order of St John of God. Further discussions are envisaged next quarter.
- As part of resetting our operating model, work was undertaken this quarter on updating and revising our Survivor Accounts, internal Treaty engagement, and Communities and Stakeholder engagement strategies. Further work is envisaged in the next quarter.
- We met with members of the Royal Commission Forum, SAGE and Te Taumata to share the reset of our work programme. We expect to broaden our approach to advise and seek feedback from other stakeholders and communities in the next quarter on the reset of our work programme

Ngā huihuinga me ngā wānanga – Public hearings and wānanga

- **Pacific Hearing:** The Pacific investigation hearing *Tulou - Our Pacific Voices: Tatala e Pulonga* hearing was held from 19-30 July at the Fale o Samoa in Mangere. Presented as a Pacific survivor story, the hearing heard survivor testimony and expert evidence covering: factors which led to Pacific children, young people and vulnerable adults being placed in care; the nature and extent of their abuse and the impact on themselves, their families and communities; frameworks to respond to the abuse. A subsequent public hearing in 2022 will focus on systemic factors and accountability and will include evidence from the State and faith-based institutions.
- **Māori Hearing:** The COVID-19 restrictions in Auckland resulted in advice being developed on whether to defer the Māori hearing and the implications of such a decision on the Survivors who were set to provide evidence and our work programme. A decision was made to defer the hearing due to COVID-19 restrictions until Alert Level 1 so that tikanga Māori processes could be exercised to its fullest extent. Advice on alternatives including dates and locations is in development.
- **Maryland's School case study hearing:** Due to the COVID-19 restrictions in Auckland, a review of whether the hearing can be undertaken in late November commenced in this quarter. Options around this are being developed for active consideration.
- **Monitoring and oversight:** In September the Commission hosted an online wānanga with invited experts to seek their insights on monitoring and oversight, including the core principles and characteristics of effective independent monitoring in practice.
- **Planning for 2022:** Further planning for Public hearings and wānanga to occur in the first quarter of 2022 has commenced.

Kaupapa here me te rangahau - Policy and Research

- Ongoing development of policy and research advice continued this quarter with a focus on supporting the Public hearings and wānanga, the draft redress recommendations and interim redress report.

Whakawhiti kōrero - Communications

- Communications and media support has been provided for the Pacific hearing and organisational reset and support to the development and publication of the interim Redress report.

Insights:

- The Commission has spent the quarter:
 - hosting a successful *Tulou - Our Pacific Voices: Tatala e Pulonga* hearing from 19-30 July at the Fale o Samoa in Mangere;
 - adjusting its strategy, work programme, resourcing and finances to align with government budget decisions made earlier in the year.
 - working at pace on critical issues and managing key risks including the impact of COVID-19 lockdowns on our work programme.
 - working towards the delivery of draft recommendations to the Minister on the future of redress processes for survivors and their whānau of abuse in care
- In October new budgets will be loaded into the financial system that accurately reflect the phasing of the work and enable more accurate monitoring and reporting of finances against activities.

Risks and Issues

- Covid-19 has impacted on our work programme this quarter and has had ripple effects across planned work for the next 6 months. We are managing this by re-prioritising the timing, content and sequencing of key activities on the work programme.
- A small number of key staff are continuing to work long hours to meet both the 1 October timeframe for delivery of the draft redress recommendations to the Minister and 1 December 2021 timeframe for the interim redress report. Wellbeing initiatives are in place and will be reviewed regularly.
- Lags in recruitment of new staff are impacting the delivery of the work programme. This is being actively managed using some short-term resource to fill key areas.
- Continuing to increase our focus on seeking information and evidence from key cohort areas (Māori, Pacific, disabled peoples, youth, Rainbow, intersectionalities etc.). We are revising our Survivor Accounts, Treaty Engagement, Communities and Stakeholder Engagement Strategies.

Indicators of effectiveness

Indicators	Progress	Commentary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of survivor registrations and wellbeing sessions this quarter 	Off-track	204 survivor registrations and 60 private sessions held. 721 Wellbeing sessions undertaken. COVID-19 restrictions have meant we haven't undertaken any private sessions while in Alert Level 4 and 3. Plans are in place to reschedule the sessions.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documentary analysis undertaken 	On track	At the end of the reporting period 130,000 documents came in to be analysed bringing the total to 807,167. Workload is heavy and ongoing prioritisation and efficiency measures remain in place.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hearings and wānanga successfully completed within the quarter as planned 	Off-track	COVID-19 has resulted in both the Māori hearing and the Maryland's School case study hearing being delayed. As well as needing to change public hearings dates, we have had to consider alternatives ways of collecting information and evidence to inform our work.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports and other key deliverables completed as planned within the quarter 	Off-track	We are on track to deliver the draft redress recommendations by 1 October. Due to the Covid related challenges, the timeframes for delivering a finalised redress report by 1 December are extremely challenging.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of the Inquiry's final report by 30 June 2023 	On track	On track to deliver on time.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of the Inquiry's work programme within the budget provided by Government 	On track	On track to deliver within budget.



On track



Off-track, but impacts mitigated

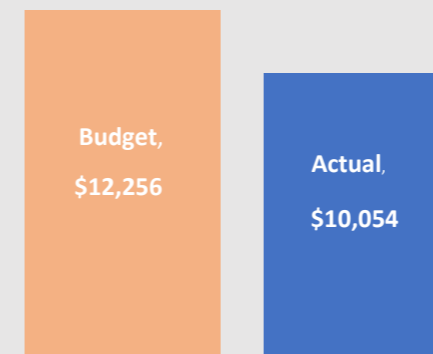


Off-track, and further mitigation required

Financial Performance

Expenditure year to date compared to budget:

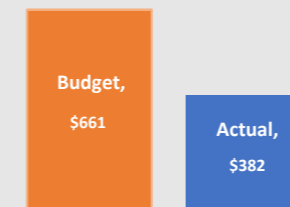
Departmental Expenditure: (000's)



- Departmental expenditure is currently running 18% below budget, mainly due to delays in recruitment to key roles in the Inquiry.
- This underspend will be re-prioritised into contingency to cover expected delivery pressures in Quarters 3 and 4.

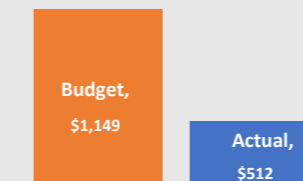
Non-Departmental Expenditure:

Commissioner Fees: (000's)



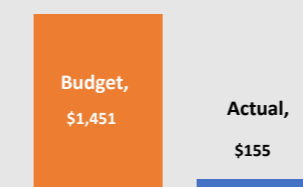
- The budget reflects the earlier expectation of a sixth Commissioner. Commissioners are on average working four days per week and that workload is expected to increase. We are exploring the option of enabling the Commissioners to work up to five days per week.

Legal Assistance: (000's)



- Legal Assistance is currently 637k under budget YTD. The budget will be updated to more accurately reflect the profile of the work.

Wellbeing Assistance: (000's)



- Wellbeing assistance is currently 1,296k under budget YTD. This is due to delays and postponements in hearings from Covid. The budget will be rephrased to reflect the profile of the work.
- We are also developing another proposal to utilise this funding which we will report on in the next quarter.

Capital: (000's)



- Capital spend is on target to budget