

Progress on Royal Commission priorities:

Key Work Items

### Ngā Pūrongo – Reports

- **Final Report** – Natural Justice processes for the Final Report content began this quarter with a view to finalising editing and content restructuring once natural justice comments have been received, reviewed and actioned appropriately. A key focus heading into next quarter is finalising the components of the report which require refinement based on natural justice feedback, followed by a review of the report as a complete volume to ensure coherence. By the end of the quarter, 600 A4 pages of comments had been received from the natural justice process. [REDACTED]
- **Preparation for Final Report production continues** [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED] the announcement of the Jehovah’s Witnesses appealing the High Court’s decision continues to have wider report content implications. [REDACTED]
- **Reference Groups for Reports** - We continued to actively engage with our reference groups to seek feedback on key aspects of the Final Report. [REDACTED] Reference Groups will continue to be involved in discussions on Final Report content and settings case studies where applicable.
- **Advisory Groups** - Regular Advisory Group meetings with SAGE, Te Taumata, the Royal Commission Forum and Te Ara Takatū continued to seek their advice and feedback [REDACTED]
- **Recommendations** - In accordance with the Inquiry’s Terms of Reference, we provided the Minister of Internal Affairs with categories of recommendations that we will present under clauses 32 and 32A. These were summarised at a high level because the underlying findings remain subject to natural justice consultation, and the Inquiry’s recommendations cannot be settled until the findings are finalised, as all recommendations must be specifically based on findings.

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

- Work continued this quarter [REDACTED]
- Solution testing engagements were completed with the Health and Disability NGO Council which includes Māori, Pacific and other service providers.
- During the quarter Te Roopu Toiora has progressed key aspects of their exhibition planning. [REDACTED] The group will continue to meet next quarter to continue planning for the survivor art events associated with the Final Report. This is a survivor-led project with the Inquiry currently providing some secretariat support.

### Ngā wānanga

- **Survivor haerenga** - The Royal Commission revisited Ōtepoti Dunedin, Te Tai Tokerau - Kaitiaki and Kaikohe and Te Tairāwhiti - Tūranga and Ruatōria during the quarter. This was part of our wider engagement plan to return to places and report back on what we heard from survivors and communities last year, [REDACTED]. In these regions, we met with iwi and hapū leaders, NGOs, kaimahi within communities, whānau and survivors. [REDACTED]

## Key Work Items continued

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

- In an earlier stage of the Inquiry, a small number of independent experts were funded to author and submit reports exploring issues relevant to the Inquiry's work. The Cracks in the Dam independent report was written by researchers Max Rashbrooke and Angie Wilkinson and peer reviewed by Professor Tracey McIntosh MNZM and Dr Emily Keddell. It highlights the long-running social and economic forces that lie behind the placement of tamariki into care in Aotearoa.
- The Inquiry also previously commissioned a report on solitary confinement to be written by Dr Sharon Shalev. It highlights the widespread and routine use of solitary confinement in State care for decades, and that its use did not adhere to national regulations or international law. These reports were released on the Commission's website in late December.

- [REDACTED]

### Whakawhiti kōrero - Communications

- This quarter has focused on finalising approaches for the consistency of style across all report parts [REDACTED]
- The Inquiry also previously commissioned a report on solitary confinement to be written by Dr Sharon Shalev. It highlights the widespread and routine use of solitary confinement in State care for decades, and that its use did not adhere to national regulations or international law. These reports were released on the Commission's website in late December.

- [REDACTED]

### Decommissioning

- As part of the Inquiry's work programme, we have collected a large amount of information from survivors, witnesses, and institutions. The Inquiry's information and evidence team are currently working closely with Archives and DIA [REDACTED]

## Risks and Issues

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

- The Jehovah's Witnesses appeal [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

## Indicators of effectiveness

RAG: **Green: On track.** **Green/Amber: On track with challenges.** **Amber: Work not progressed as expected.**  
**Amber/Red: Items to flag for escalation.** **Red: Unlikely to meet deliverable**

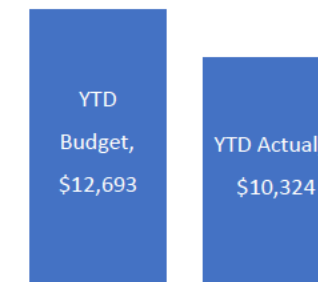
Indicators	Progress	Commentary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indicator: Hearings and wānanga successfully completed within the quarter as planned</li> </ul>	<p>Progress status:</p> <p><b>Amber</b></p>	<p>Commentary: ██████████  ██████████ ānanga with key survivor and stakeholder groups continued. ██████████  ██████████</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indicator: Reports and other key deliverables completed as planned within the quarter</li> </ul>	<p>Progress status:</p> <p><b>Amber</b></p>	<p>Commentary: Draft recommendations were planned to be delivered to the Minister for Internal Affairs by 30 November 2023. The categories of recommendations (under clauses 32 and 32A) were shared with the Minister on 30 November however, these were high level because the underlying findings remain subject to natural justice consultation, which is still in progress.</p>
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## Financial Performance

The second quarter of the 2023/24 financial year had the Commission with an underspend of \$2.369m in Departmental costs and \$0.618m in the Non-Departmental costs. Note, while the Commission is scheduled to end on 28 March 2024, decommissioning of the Commission will be completed during the fourth quarter of the 2023/24 financial year.

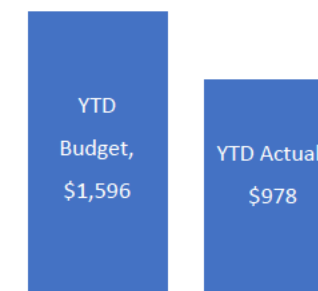
A request to transfer all underspends from the 2022/23 financial year to the new Departmental Operating Appropriation was made as part of OBU.

### Departmental Expenditure: (000's)



- Departmental expenditure is underspent by \$2.4m or 19%. This is due to staff reductions but we are anticipating these savings will be used for report production and decommissioning.
- Due to delays in the final report there have been delays in the cost of production.

### Non Departmental: (000's)



- For the 2023/24 year, Non-Departmental costs have been combined into one appropriation. This appropriation is under budget by \$0.618m. A large portion of this underspend is due to now only having three Commissioners from August and a reduction in survivor requested counselling, which is linked to when reports are released or there is engagement with survivors.