

# Briefing

## Ngāi Tūhoe request to meet with Minister Doocoy

<b>Date due to MO:</b>	6 March 2024	<b>Action required by:</b>	N/A
<b>Security level:</b>	IN CONFIDENCE	<b>Health Report number:</b>	H2024036510
<b>To:</b>	Hon Matt Doocoy, Minister for Mental Health		
<b>Copy to:</b>	Hon Dr Shane Reti, Minister of Health		
<b>Consulted:</b>	Health New Zealand: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Māori Health Authority: <input type="checkbox"/>		

## Contact for telephone discussion

Name	Position	Telephone
<b>John Whaanga</b>	Deputy Director-General, Māori Health– Te Pou Hauora Māori	s 9(2)(a)
<b>Bernard Te Pā</b>	Group Manager Māori Crown Relations, Māori Health Directorate – Te Pou Hauora Māori	s 9(2)(a)

## Minister's office to complete:

- |   |                                    |  |
|---|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Approved             | <input type="checkbox"/> Decline   | <input type="checkbox"/> Noted               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Needs change         | <input type="checkbox"/> Seen      | <input type="checkbox"/> Overtaken by events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> See Minister's Notes | <input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn |  |

Comment:

# Ngāi Tūhoe request to meet with Minister Doocey

---

**Security level:** IN CONFIDENCE      **Date:** 5 March 2024

---

**To:** Hon Matt Doocey, Minister for Mental Health

---

## Purpose of report

1. Tāmami Kruger (Chair) and Kirsti Luke (Chief Executive), on behalf of Ngāi Tūhoe and Te Uru Taumatua (the post-settlement entity for Tūhoe), have invited you to meet to discuss issues related to mental health.

## Background:

2. Hon Louise Upston is the key minister for He Tapuae (Tūhoe Service Management Plan) and supports Ngāi Tūhoe's service delivery aspirations. Minister Upston's office is looking to co-ordinate a wider ministerial meeting that includes your colleagues Hon Dr Shane Reti and Hon Tama Pōtaka. Ngāi Tūhoe would like to host the Ministers in their region. Ngāi Tūhoe have expressed interest in meeting with you either as part of the ministerial meeting or separately in your capacity as Minister for Mental Health.

## Potential Agenda Items

### Ngāi Tūhoe aspirations for mental health and addiction services

3. Ngāi Tūhoe have expressed strong interest in discussing mental health concerns in the Tūhoe rohe, including the usage of methamphetamines and the provision of counselling services focussed on this issue.
4. According to the New Zealand Health Survey 2017-2020, around 3,000 Māori in the wider Bay of Plenty region reported amphetamine use within the previous 12 months
5. Ngāi Tūhoe's aspirations include becoming self-aware, and shifting from worthlessness to feeling worthy. Ngāi Tūhoe have a stated intention to increase expert counselling and therapeutic services by 500 hours throughout 2024 with these services provided through Te Uru Taumatua's medical centres.

### Establishment of an Iwi-Māori Partnership Board within the Ngāi Tūhoe region

6. Currently, Ngāi Tūhoe do not have an Iwi-Māori Partnership Board (IMPB) for their region. This could be a point of discussion since IMPBs have a direct impact on delivering the health aspirations of whānau. The Ministry of Health is working with Te Aka Whai Ora to develop the Ngāi Tūhoe case to stand up an IMPB.

## **Other Information and Potential Risks:**

7. Ngāi Tūhoe and the Ministry of Health are currently working through the process to potentially establish an IMPB. There are several issues to be worked through, including confirming boundaries for the IMPB. Ngāi Tūhoe have expressed some concern that other already established IMPBs may be covering some of their region, without Tūhoe representation.
8. Ngāi Tūhoe contend that current mental health services within their region are not meeting the needs of their population. Provision of addiction services for whānau members addicted to methamphetamine are a particular priority for Ngāi Tūhoe.

## **Benefits and risks of attending the meeting**

9. We recommend that you consider granting the request for a meeting.
10. Meeting with Ngāi Tūhoe is a good opportunity for you to hear their health concerns and deliver any information and potential solutions to their needs and aspirations in relation to mental health.
11. Specifically, a meeting would enable you to hear first-hand the difficulties of dealing with methamphetamine addiction in the Ngāi Tūhoe region.
12. Attending the wider ministerial meeting would be a preferable, however we understand the difficulties in coordinating ministerial diaries, particularly when having to travel.

## **Next steps**

13. Ministry of Health will await to hear your decision regarding attending the meeting and will provide an Aide-Memoire if needed.

We recommend you:

- a) **Note** our recommendation to attend either a Ministerial meeting with Ngāi Tūhoe, or in a one-on-one capacity.
- b) **Note** that mental health, the use of methamphetamines, and related addiction services will be a high priority agenda item.
- c) **Note** that Ngāi Tūhoe are currently in the process of potentially establishing an Iwi-Māori Partnership Board and that this may also be a topic of discussion.



John Whaanga  
Deputy Director-General  
**Māori Health – Te Pou Hauora Māori**

Hon Matt Doocey  
**Minister of Mental Health**

ENDS.

## Minister's Notes

PROACTIVELY RELEASED