

In Confidence

Associate Minister of Housing (Māori Housing)

Chair of the Economic Development Committee

Māori Housing Strategy: MAIHI Ka Ora – Phase two – Implementation Plan

Proposal

- 1 This paper seeks endorsement of the second phase of the National Māori Housing Strategy – MAIHI Ka Ora.
- 2 MAIHI Ka Ora has been developed in two phases. The first phase, approved by Cabinet in September 2021 [CBC-21-MIN-0098], sets out priority areas, goals and provides an overview of the areas of work that will be undertaken in the second phase of development.
- 3 Phase two of the National Māori Housing Strategy – MAIHI Ka Ora involves the development of a detailed Implementation Plan. Officials were directed to complete work on the second phase by the end of 2021.
- 4 The Implementation Plan addresses the shared priority areas identified in phase one of MAIHI Ka Ora and builds into it. Te Matapihi and Iwi and Māori housing providers contributed to the Implementation Plan, with a wide range of Government Departments and Agencies providing input to ensure we align work programmes across government.
- 5 MAIHI Ka Ora phase two sets out work programmes which directly relate to the ultimate outcomes being sought in the Strategy, but it is not a reflection of the entire work programme set out in the Māori housing space.

Relation to Government priorities

- 6 This paper is in line with the Government's commitment to laying the foundations for a better future, through improving housing affordability [CAB-20-MIN-0525]. It also aligns with the Government's ongoing commitment to strengthening Māori Crown relationships by partnering with Māori to deliver the Māori Housing Strategy and Implementation Plan.

Executive summary

- 7 Māori represent 50 per cent of those on the Housing Register, whilst making up just 16.7 per cent of the population. The Māori home ownership rate is only 31 per cent compared to 51.8 per cent for the general population. Māori make up 37 per cent of public housing tenants and are three times more likely to experience severe housing deprivation than Pākehā New Zealanders.
- 8 The statistics highlight the inequity for Māori in housing. History tells us that to be successful in providing enduring Māori housing solutions we must put whānau at the centre of our approach. We must enter into genuine partnerships

with Iwi and Māori to support a holistic approach and provide wrap-around services through improved cross-agency support to whānau who need more than just a physical home to nourish and sustain their wellbeing – their mauri (lifeforce).

- 9 The implementation of the MAIHI Framework for Action has made good gains by focussing on the need for a whole of system approach. It sets an expectation of cohesion across government agencies to accelerate Māori housing and wellbeing outcomes.
- 10 Following on from the implementation of the MAIHI Framework for Action, and the investment Budget 2021 made in the supply of, and infrastructure for, Māori housing, Cabinet agreed to the development of a new Māori Housing Strategy as part of a system-wide approach to the setting of long-term direction for the housing and urban system by Government (CAB-21-MIN- 0199).

Phase one of the National Māori Housing Strategy: MAIHI Ka Ora

- 11 A full copy of the first phase of the National Māori Housing Strategy: MAIHI Ka Ora is attached as *Annex 1*.
- 12 MAIHI Ka Ora was developed alongside the Government Policy Statement on Housing and Urban Development (GPS-HUD). Developing these key documents together enabled us to align strategic direction across the GPS-HUD, Māori Housing Strategy and MAIHI Framework for Action, as part of setting the long-term direction for the housing and urban system.
- 13 The Māori Housing Strategy will be critical in contributing to a better future for whānau Māori. It sets the direction for the next 30 years and will be reviewed at least every three years, to reflect the progress made within the system and respond where there is the most pressing need.
- 14 The vision for the new Māori Housing Strategy is: *'All whanau have safe, healthy, affordable homes with secure tenure, across the Māori housing continuum'*.
- 15 The Strategy is applied with the framework of a Whare to illustrate the work and achievements to date, the priority areas of focus, and emphasises whānau are at the centre, the importance of the Māori Crown partnership and describes measurable outcomes and targets moving forward.

Strategic priority areas set out in MAIHI Ka Ora

- 16 The total Māori housing problem can be broken into 6 major components. They are:
 - 16.1 Māori Crown Partnerships
 - 16.2 Māori-led Local Solutions
 - 16.3 Māori Housing Supply
 - 16.4 Māori Housing Support
 - 16.5 Māori Housing System
 - 16.6 Māori Housing Sustainability

Māori Crown Partnerships

- 17 Previous Māori housing strategies were not co-designed with Māori. There was a lack of accountability measures or measurable outcomes and a lack of cooperation and partnership between the Crown and Māori.
- 18 A strong Māori Crown partnership is crucial to successfully creating Māori housing solutions. To ensure the partnership is genuine there must be a sharing of information, transparency between partners for positive collaboration and, to deliver enduring solutions, more aligned decision making.

Māori-led Local Solutions

- 19 Previous 'one size fits all' approaches to Māori housing have not worked. An increased focus on Māori-led local solutions will enable Māori and the Crown to better identify need at a local level and deliver fit for purpose housing solutions that take a 'by Māori for Māori' approach.

Māori Housing Supply

- 20 A warm, dry home is important to ensure the wellbeing of whānau. There is a lack of supply of quality, affordable housing for Māori whānau to rent or own. Ensuring we build more houses is the main part of the solution to the housing crisis we face, but we also need to provide houses that meet whānau needs. The increase in housing supply needs to provide a mix of housing solutions – from housing options for those ready to buy their own home, those who prefer to rent long-term but with security of tenure, to those that want to return to their own land and live with their whānau in papakāinga.

Māori Housing Support

- 21 Effective support for whānau in housing is limited. The current housing support system is complex and unnavigable for many whānau. We are taking steps for improvement, this pou indicates that there is much more to do.

Māori Housing System

- 22 The housing system is not only complex, but also fragmented and not easily understood. There are barriers within the system for many wanting to implement Māori housing solutions – for example funding and financing for building on Māori land, the numerous agencies involved in the housing space and the consequential multiple entry points for Māori, and lack of understanding of Māori housing need which creates policy barriers which stand in the way of providing better housing solutions.

Māori Housing Sustainability

- 23 We need to make housing solutions more sustainable for whānau. That means we must look at ways of ensuring that the housing solutions provide whānau security of tenure.
- 24 Sustainability also means strengthening and retaining the connection between Māori, and their whakapapa to their whenua. Being able to sustain housing will provide better support to whānau who want to live in papakāinga, within their tribal rohe.

Engagement and co-design

- 25 It is important that Iwi and Māori see their thoughts and feedback reflected in this Implementation Plan. In the implementation tables we have indicated where actions are aligned to feedback received to date.
- 26 We have also considered the evidence, written and oral, submitted by claimants and witnesses in Wai 2750. We are partnering with some claimants in our work which ensures their voices were reflected for example in the design of this Implementation Plan. Their kōrero, values, experiences and knowledge reflect that of many other whānau, hapū and marae across the motu.
- 27 Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga have worked cross-agency with Te Puni Kōkiri and in partnership with Te Matapihi he tirohanga mō te Iwi Trust (Te Matapihi) on the development of MAIHI Ka Ora and to facilitate six regional wānanga across the motu and an additional two online hui.
- 28 Further engagement included a facilitated hui with the original members of He Whare Āhuru He Oranga Tāngata Specialist Advisory Group, and separately with members of the National Iwi Chairs Forum.
- 29 At the second MAIHI Whare Wānanga held on 8 July 2021, participants discussed the priorities of the new strategy. The overarching message received during all the engagements were noted, namely that Government should remove existing constraints in order to enable participants to provide more Māori-led housing solutions for their people.
- 30 Since the launch of MAIHI Ka Ora we have continued to strengthen this development by working with Te Matapihi, Māori Community Housing Providers, and key leads from the National Iwi chairs Forum. Whānau and hapū representatives who participated in the MAIHI Whare Wānanga have also informed the development of the Implementation Plan.
- 31 Together we have been able to combine Crown goals, Māori aspirations and cross-government work programmes to ensure progress is made towards the ultimate goals set out in MAIHI Ka Ora.

MAIHI Ka Ora: The Implementation Plan

- 32 A full copy of the Implementation Plan is attached as *Annex 2*.
- 33 While MAIHI Ka Ora sets the vision for Māori Housing for the next 30 years, this Implementation Plan will span three to four years. Its purpose is to take us a step closer to the MAIHI Ka Ora overall vision. It aligns work across a range of agencies, showing how a portfolio of work can contribute to positive Māori housing outcomes. It also provides an opportunity to bring together work programmes across government that contribute to MAIHI Ka Ora.
- 34 The Implementation Plan uses the MAIHI framework system settings of 'Respond, Review and Reset'. The reset stage of the Implementation Plan often relies on the completion of the review action which, in turn, requires that we respond to the crisis.
- 35 Phase one of MAIHI Ka Ora sets out the priority areas, actions, pathways, deliverables, and timeframes. These are repeated in the Implementation Plan.
- 36 The Implementation Plan adds the following:
- 36.1 An identification of the lead agency/department for each action: these are the leads that will be responsible for bringing together the different agencies to deliver the action.
 - 36.2 Work programmes: this is a list of work programmes that are underway or will be implemented across 'responsible' agencies.
 - 36.3 Measurable targets or outcomes: these indicate what each action is expected to deliver.
 - 36.4 An alignment of actions to feedback from Māori: to ensure that both the Crown and our Iwi / Māori partners are clearly represented in the Implementation Plan, this column shows how the action is driven by feedback received from Māori.
 - 36.5 MAIHI Principles: both MAIHI Ka Ora and the Implementation Plan are grounded by the principles articulated in Te Maihi o te Whare Māori: MAIHI – this column ensures that future work continues to be grounded by those principles.
- 37 There are actions in this Implementation Plan that have been identified by Iwi / Māori and the Crown as priorities: these are the rows highlighted in red. It is intended that these priorities will be discussed at the next MAIHI Whare Wānanga scheduled to be held in Te Taitokerau in March 2022.
- 38 To ensure the actions are always fit for purpose and respond to the pressing needs of the time, the intention is for MAIHI Ka Ora to be reviewed every three years in conjunction with the three yearly review of the GPS-HUD.
- 39 Reports on the progress of the Implementation Plan will be provided to MAIHI Whare Wānanga at their annual meetings as well as to the Associate Minister for Housing (Māori Housing). Te MAIHI Whare Wānanga is required to provide an annual update to Cabinet. The next report is due in June 2022.

The role of Te MAIHI Whare Wānanga

- 40 Te MAIHI Whare Wānanga is a Ministerial forum for Rangatira-to-Rangatira engagement – that is, Māori leaders directly with Crown Ministers. A second level engagement occurs and is described as Rangatira to Kāwanatanga discussions between Māori leaders and Government officials. The primary purposes are:
- a. A genuine forum and protocol for engagement Rangatira to Rangatira – Māori leaders and the Crown.
 - b. A platform for Iwi and Māori housing collective members to talk directly to Ministers.
 - c. A forum where the Iwi and Māori collective are given high-level insight into the Government's programme for Māori Housing developments.
 - d. An opportunity for partners to highlight what each is working on and what's upcoming, and to have open kōrero and engagement.
 - e. An opportunity for participants to provide feedback on their interactions with the Crown.
- 41 As advised above, the next MAIHI Whare Wānanga is scheduled for March 2022, to be held in Te Taitokerau. The Implementation Plan and the role of the MAIHI Whare Wānanga will be discussed in detail at this time.

Financial Implications

- 42 Te Tūāpapa Kura Kāinga is committed to resourcing its work outlined in the Implementation Plan and the MAIHI Ka Ora strategy.

Te Tiriti o Waitangi implications

- 43 The Treaty of Waitangi embodies a partnership between Māori and the Crown. Officials have assessed the proposals in this paper against the principles and the articles of the Treaty.
- **Rangatiratanga/chieftainship** – the actions in this paper seek to enable by Māori, for Māori housing solutions.
 - **Kāwanatanga/government** – the direction set out in this paper will support the Crown to meet its legislative obligations in a way that reflects the Treaty partnership.
 - **Oritetanga/equity** – the paper outlines a series of actions to reduce inequity for Māori in the housing system.

Human Rights

- 44 This paper is consistent with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 and the Human Rights Act 1993.

Consultation

Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, Treasury, Kāinga Ora, Te Puni Kōkiri, Ministry of Social Development, Department of Corrections, Oranga Tamariki, Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, Office of Māori Crown relations – Te Arawhiti, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Ministry for the Environment.

Communications

- 45 Decisions will be communicated publicly at an event following decisions being confirmed by Cabinet.

Proactive Release

- 46 I intend to proactively release this Cabinet paper within 30 business days of decisions being confirmed by Cabinet.

Recommendations

- 1 The Associate Minister of Housing (Māori Housing) recommends that the Committee:
- a. **Note** that this paper is phase two of the development of the National Māori Housing Strategy – MAIHI Ka Ora.
 - b. **Note** the shared vision for the future of Māori housing is ‘All whanau have safe, healthy, affordable homes with secure tenure, across the Māori housing continuum’.
 - c. **Note** that the MAIHI Framework for Action has been elevated and provides the strategic direction and framework for the National Māori Housing Strategy – MAIHI Ka Ora.
 - d. **Agree** to implement phase two of the National Māori Housing Strategy: MAIHI Ka Ora.
 - e. **Agree** to review the National Māori Housing Strategy – MAIHI Ka Ora and the Implementation Plan every three years in conjunction with the review of the Government Policy Statement on Housing and Urban Development (GPS-HUD).
 - f. **Invite** the Associate Minister for Housing (Māori Housing) to report back to Cabinet in June 2022 on the progress of the Strategy through the MAIHI report back paper.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon Peeni Henare

Associate Minister for Housing (Māori)