



## **BRIEFING NOTE: Visit to Te Kura o Hau Karetu School (2902) to announce the roll out of the Community Provision of School Counselling on Monday 8 November 2021**

|  |  |                     |         |
|--|--|---------------------|---------|
| <b>To:</b>                                   | Hon Jan Tinetti, Associate Minister of Education |                     |         |
| <b>Cc:</b>                                   | Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education         |                     |         |
| <b>Date:</b>                                 | 3 November 2021                                  | <b>Priority:</b>    | High    |
| <b>Security Level:</b>                       | In Confidence                                    | <b>METIS No:</b>    | 1275556 |
| <b>Drafter:</b>                              | Susie Harcourt/ Matt Roseingrave                 | <b>DDI:</b>         | 9(2)(a) |
| <b>Key Contact:</b>                          | Roy Sue, Director of Education                   | <b>DDI:</b>         |         |
| <b>Messaging seen by Communications team</b> | Yes  | <b>Round Robin:</b> | No      |

### **Purpose**

This briefing note supports your visit to Te Kura o Hau Karetu School to announce the national roll out of the Community Provision of School Counselling.

The briefing includes information on the Community Provision of School Counselling and Te Kura o Hau Karetu School (Annex 1).

### **Proactive Release**

- a Agree that the Ministry of Education release this briefing in full once it has been considered by you.

**Agree/ Disagree**



Susan Howan  
**Associate Deputy Secretary  
Strategy and Implementation  
Te Pae Aronui**



Hon Jan Tinetti  
**Associate / Minister of Education**

3/11/2021

06 /11/2021

## Background

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1. In May 2020, Budget 2020 announced a package of initiatives to support the wellbeing of learners and whānau across the educational sector. Part of that package included funding to contract local community organisations to provide counselling support in selected primary, intermediate, and secondary schools.
2. We identified 141 schools in 8 regions who will receive community provided counselling support. We contracted with 9 providers to deliver counselling support in 113 schools and are progressing direct sourcing to identify and contract with suitable community providers for the remaining 28 schools.

## Identification of Schools to receive support

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3. The initiative extends the counselling support to schools by utilising the expertise of community-based organisations experienced in the provision of counselling to children and young persons.
4. To maximise the impact of the funding available the service provision is targeted to those schools with the greatest need. The need was determined using a range of factors including the availability of suitable providers, the Ministry of Education Equity Index, school attendance data, the presence or absence of other existing supports, and the announced extension of the Mana Ake programme.
5. To avoid possible duplication with the Ministry of Health's Mana Ake programme, we excluded from the initiative's coverage those regions and areas where it is intended that the Ministry of Health, through the district health boards will be delivering services. The exception to this approach is Tai Tokerau, where the extent of the need is such that, with the agreement of the Ministry of Health, schools in the region have not been excluded from receiving counselling support.
6. The range of schools where service is being provided is outlined in the table below:

| School Type                              | Total      |
|--|------------|
| Full Primary Schools (Year 1-8)          | 65         |
| Secondary Schools (Year 7-15)            | 6          |
| Secondary Schools (Year 9-15)            | 8          |
| Intermediate Schools (Year 7-8)          | 4          |
| Contributing Schools (Year 1-6)          | 46         |
| Composite Schools (Year 1-10)            | 1          |
| Composite Schools (Year 1-15)            | 10         |
| Restricted Composite Schools (Year 7-10) | 1          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                             | <b>141</b> |

7. The regional breakdown of the number schools and students who will receive services under this initiative is outlined in the table below:

| Region   | Student Numbers (approx.) | Number of schools |
|--|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Northland / Te Tai Tokerau                       | 4,689                     | 37                |
| Auckland (excl. Counties Manukau)                | 1,024                     | 3                 |
| Waikato  | 4,115                     | 23                |
| Hawkes Bay / Tairāwhiti                          | 5,937                     | 34                |
| Taranaki / Whanganui Manawatū                    | 2,400                     | 16                |
| Wellington                                       | 2,134                     | 12                |
| Canterbury (excl. Christchurch)/ Chatham Islands | 2,014                     | 7                 |
| Otago / Southland                                | 1,977                     | 9                 |
| <b>Totals</b>                                    | <b>24,290</b>             | <b>141</b>        |

### Community Counselling Procurement

8. We ran a procurement round to identify suitable community organisations to provide counselling support. With the assistance of the New Zealand Association of Counsellors (NZAC) and the Ministry of Health (MOH) we developed the delivery specifications and the requirements for the procurement.
9. Following the conclusion of the procurement, we have awarded contracts to 9 providers that covers 8 regions and 113 of the 141 selected schools. In 2 regions the capacity offered by the suppliers was not sufficient to deliver services to all the schools identified. We are directly sourcing suitable providers to address the needs of the 28 schools not covered by the contracted providers.

### Counselling Support provided

10. Depending upon their need, the selected schools can access up to 1,000 hours of support per year. Each school will work with their provider to develop a school delivery plan. This plan will identify the support that is required to help children and young people better manage issues such as bullying, loneliness, anxiety at school, or loss or grief in their family or community.
11. The providers can offer a range of counselling including:
- Group or individualised support
  - Support for school wellbeing activities
  - Information about other support available
  - Kaupapa Māori and Pacific approaches
12. Approximately 100,000 hours of additional counselling support per annum will be provided to the identified schools.

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9(2)(f)(iv)

#### Issues arising

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15. The counselling support offered by this initiative is only available to a small range of schools and not all schools who have a counselling need. The schools selected to been identified as having the greatest need that is not being addressed by initiatives such as Mana Ake. Before we consider any possible extension of this support to other schools, we want to ensure that the approach is sustainable and effective.
16. There were a number of potential providers who responded to our procurement process who have been unsuccessful. In some cases, they currently are, or have in the past provided counselling services to schools. They were not considered for contracts as they were not able to provide services to the selected schools or areas identified by the initiative. Some provided a level of capacity more than that required to meet the needs identified.

#### Communications Material to support announcement

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17. Attached to this report are the draft talking points (Annex 2) and draft questions and answers (Annex 3). The draft press release for this announcement has already been provided to your office (see METIS 1275559).

#### Annexes

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- Annex 1: Te Kura o Hau Karetu School Brief
- Annex 2: Draft Talking Points
- Annex 3: Draft Questions and Answers

## Annex 1: Te Kura o Hau Karetu (#2902)

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Contact Name: Karen Wellington  
9(2)(a)

Address: 32 Hillside Drive, Maoribank, Upper Hutt 5018

### Key People

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Board chairperson: Ross Tukukino

Principal: Karen Wellington  
School: 04 5269552  
Mobile: 9(2)(a)

Karen has been the principal of Te Kura o Hau Karetu for seven years. Prior to this she was on the school's teaching staff. 9(2)(a)

Ministry Official: Roy Sye, Director of Education Wellington 9(2)(a)

### Background information about Te Kura o Hau Karetu

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#### Issues

- 1 Although Te Kura o Hau Karetu is part of the Counselling in Schools programme, counselling is yet to start, as the provider (Healthcare NZ) is still in the process of appointing a practitioner. The school is aware of this and is not concerned about the delay.
- 2 They school is excited to be part of the programme. 9(2)(ba)(i)  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]
- 3 Te Kura o Hau Karetu are also determined to recapitate as there is a very strong interest from parents, particularly parents of learning support children and Māori parents for a full primary. The community feel there are no other alternatives available for Years 7 & 8 other than intermediate or catholic primary schools in Upper Hutt. If we receive an application to recapitate we will work through the process.

#### Profile Information

|                  |                            |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| Authority        | State                      |
| School Type      | Contributing               |
| School Gender    | Co-Ed                      |
| Education Medium | English                    |
| Decile           | 3                          |
| Electorate       | Remutaka<br>Ikaroa-Rāwhiti |

- 4 The July 2021 breakdown of roll information is shown below:

| July 2021 Roll   | Number | Percentage (%) |
|------------------|--------|----------------|
| Māori            | 69     | 58.5%          |
| European/ Pākehā | 42     | 35.6%          |
| Pacific          | 4      | 3.4%           |
| Asian            | 2      | 1.7%           |
| Other            | 1      | 0.8%           |
| Total            | 118    | 100%           |

### Impact of COVID-19

- 5 The school reported whānau having internet access where there was no connectivity was an issue however the school supported learners with hard pack materials.

### Urgent Response Fund

- 6 Karen Wellington was one of four school leaders who participated in the Ongoing Resourcing Scheme Fund Urgent Response Fund panel for the Wellington region.
- 7 The school has applied for Six Urgent Response Funds for a total of \$32,119. Five applications were approved or partially approved for \$19,124.00 to support 504 students in total, including many students several times
- 8 One application declined for \$4,00.00 as did not fit URF criteria. This was referred to learning support and support was provided form by our team.

### Anything else of note about the school?

- 9 Ministry staff are currently working with Te Kura o Hau Karetu and Kimi Ora Specialist School to set up the first satellite class of a specialist school in Upper Hutt. This is one of eight new satellites for Kimi Ora Specialist School funded through Budget 19/20. Both schools are excited about this project, as both are welcoming and inclusive of students with diverse needs.
- 10 In February 2021 the school was renamed Te Kura o Hau Karetu from its previous name Māoribank School. The name was gifted to the school by Te Ati Awa and represents the hau (wind) blowing through the karetu (grass growing along the Hutt River).
- 11 The school intends to open a Level 1 Te Reo Māori immersion class in 2022. This will be the first immersion class in Upper Hutt. We are supporting them through this process.

### Education Review Office

- 12 The school was last visited by the Education Review Office (ERO) in 2020. ERO reported strong culturally responsive practices that promote student and whānau engagement, and good support for students acquiring key competencies to access the curriculum confidently. ERO's overall evaluation judgement is that the school is well-placed to achieve outcomes for students.

## **Kāhui Ako | Communities of Learning**

- 13 The school does not belong to a Kāhui Ako. The school along with all other schools in Upper Hutt and Tawhai School in Stokes Valley are part of the Upper Hutt cluster. The cluster has a long history of working collaboratively on a range of topics.

## **Visit and event information**

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### **Runsheets**

- 14 We are finalising the run sheet with the school and will provide this to your office as soon as it is confirmed.

## **Participation in government programmes**

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### **School Donations Scheme**

- 15 The school opted into the School Donations Scheme for 2020 and 2021.
- 16 The school received \$17,423 in lieu of donations in 2020, and \$19,148 in 2021 based on the July roll return.

### **Ka Ora, Ka Ako | Healthy School Lunch Programme**

- 17 The school is taking part in the Healthy School Lunch programme, started at the beginning of Term 2. Te Kura o Hau Karetu currently is supplied by Kapura, Pita Pit and Subway. They chose a 'mixed model' to get the benefits of having different suppliers.
- 18 Feedback from the school is that the school is happy – largely. School communicates well between the Ministry and the suppliers. Originally there were some teething issues around food quality, but these have been resolved.

### **Access to Period products**

- 19 Te Kura o Hau Karetu has opted into the national initiative and to date has made available products.

### **Learning Support Coordinators**

- 20 The school is part of the Upper Hutt cluster, which has been allocated 16 learning Support Coordinators.
- 21 Thirteen of LSCs are employed by Te Kura o Hau Karetu which was a decision the cluster made, with Te Kura o Hau Karetu receiving 2.5 days of LSC support per week.

### **Creatives in schools**

- 22 Te Kura O Hau in Remutaka did not apply for Round 1, 2 and 3 of the Creatives in Schools projects.

## Property

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- 23 Overall, the school property is in a fair condition. The school has experienced some property issues which are partly attributed to a surplus of property, but funding has been allocated to address these issues.
- 24 The annual maintenance funding is \$23,288.11, while the current 5YA funding is \$606,000. This includes a base 5YA of \$100,877 which we have topped up with a supplementary 5YA of \$513,460 to support the school with addressing existing property condition issues.
- 25 Discussions are currently underway regarding the establishment of a satellite unit of Kimi Ora Special School at the kura. Efforts are underway to identify appropriate surplus property within the school to modify for this purpose.
- 26 We are working with the school to scope a project to establish a learning support coordinator space in the administration block. A small storage room in the administration area is likely to be upgraded to provide this space.
- 27 Other projects underway include an ILE project to refurbish two classrooms in Block 4 to meet the Ministry's design standards.
- 28 The kura has been experiencing ongoing drainage issues. A project is being planned to replace the stormwater drainage site wide, with the project currently at the procurement stage.
- 29 In positive news for the school, it has invested their \$70,842.15 SIP funding to upgrade the school swimming pool and to upgrade a breakout room adjacent to a teaching space.