



Cabinet Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti Committee

Minute of Decision

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Positioning Te Puni Kōkiri for Strategic Impact

Portfolio Māori Development

On 11 June 2019, the Cabinet Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti Committee (MCR):

- 1 **noted** that:
 - 1.1 removing inequality and improving outcomes for whānau, hapū, iwi and Māori will benefit all of New Zealand;
 - 1.2 improving outcomes for whānau, hapū, iwi and Māori is a collective responsibility across government;
- 2 **noted** that Te Puni Kōkiri was established by the Ministry of Māori Development Act 1991 with a focus on policy, monitoring and local level facilitation functions;
- 3 **noted** that, over time, Te Puni Kōkiri has taken on a bigger role in policy, investments, developing and providing specialist advice and services for Māori, and regional engagements;
- 4 **noted** that the Minister for Maori Development's expectation is that the incoming Chief Executive will position Te Puni Kōkiri to:
 - 4.1 commence a formal monitoring programme to monitor the effectiveness of public sector agencies' strategies, policies and services in uplifting Māori wellbeing outcomes;
 - 4.2 continue to lead policy advice and strengthen its approach to implementation on issues of specific importance to Māori, such as whenua, te reo Māori, mātauranga and intellectual property, Māori media and digital innovation;
 - 4.3 target interdepartmental advice to matters most likely to have a direct impact on wellbeing outcomes for whānau, hapū, iwi and Māori;
 - 4.4 co-create strategic advice, as appropriate, with the State Services Commission and the Treasury on system levers and frameworks that will lift the quality of the wider public sector system performance for Māori;
 - 4.5 broker opportunities with whānau, hapū, iwi and Māori through its regional footprint in areas that are strategic priorities for the government and provide core hub support for government agencies;

- 4.6 invest in innovative initiatives that build the capability and readiness of whānau and Māori communities to achieve their aspirations, leading to intergenerational transformation;
- 4.7 consider the impact of existing specialist advice and services and provide advice on the feasibility of transferring them to the appropriate agencies.
- 5 **noted** that the positioning of Te Puni Kōkiri will have implications for the wider public sector system;
- 6 **noted** that some specialist advice and services for Māori that Te Puni Kōkiri currently provides may reach a point of maturity that allows them to be transferred to other agencies;
- 7 **noted** that the Minister for Māori Development will need support to ensure that all agencies build the capability to be effective for Māori and that this may require reprioritisation of existing resources to lift capability and build sufficient capacity to drive an uplift in Māori wellbeing outcomes;
- 8 **noted** that in April 2019, Cabinet invited the Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti and the Minister for Māori Development to report back jointly to MCR in September 2019 on the relative roles and responsibilities of Te Arawhiti and Te Puni Kōkiri [CAB-19-MIN-0174.22];
- 9 **noted** that the Minister for Māori Development intends to engage with relevant Ministers should the positioning of Te Puni Kōkiri have portfolio implications beyond the government's commitment to Māori wellbeing outcomes and the existing expectation of collective responsibility for improving outcomes for whānau, hapū, iwi and Māori;
- 10 **noted** that Te Puni Kōkiri is developing a plan regarding the directions outlined in the paper under MCR-19-SUB-0017 for the incoming Chief Executive to implement from their anticipated start date in August 2019.

Rachel Clarke
Committee Secretary

Present:

Rt Hon Winston Peters
Hon Kelvin Davis (Chair)
Hon David Parker
Hon Nanaia Mahuta
Hon Stuart Nash
Hon Peeni Henare
Hon Eugenie Sage

Officials present from:

Office of the Prime Minister
Officials Committee for MCR

Hard-copy distribution:

Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti
Minister for Māori Development