MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
TE TĀHUHU O TE MĀTAURANGA

Briefing Note: Update on the development of an expanded Mana Ake service

To:	Hon Jan Tinetti, Associate Minister of Education		
Cc:	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education		
Date:	30 March 2022	**Priority:**	Medium
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Purpose of Report

On 14 March 2022 we provided an update on the development of the Mana Ake service in Tai Tokerau (METIS 1283240 refers). This briefing provides an update on the progress being made to develop and implement a tailored Mana Ake service in the other DHB expansion areas.

Proactive Release

a **agree** that this briefing is not published as the development and implementation of an expanded Mana Ake service is subject to agreement of future contracts and subject to future funding.

Agree / Disagree.

Susan Howan
Associate Deputy Secretary
Te Pae Aronui

30/03/2022

Hon Jan Tinetti
Associate Minister of Education

31/03/2022

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Background

1. In April 2021 the Government announced the expansion of Mana Ake in five District Health Board (DHB) areas to provide more school-based mental wellbeing support to children in Years 1 to 8. The Ministry of Health (MOH) made available one-off funding of $12m from Budget 2021 to continue Mana Ake service delivery in Canterbury and Kaikōura; develop co-design proposals in the DHB expansion areas; and commence service delivery in up to two of those areas.

2. The Mana Ake service is being expanded into five DHB areas: Northland, Counties Manukau, Bay of Plenty, Lakes, and West Coast. Northland and West Coast DHBs have been identified by MOH as the two areas for commencement of service delivery in 2022.

3. For ease of reference 'Mana Ake' is used in this briefing to refer to the mental wellbeing service for children in Years 1 to 8 that is being expanded into five DHB areas. However, Mana Ake is the name of the Canterbury and Kaikōura service and while that model is the template, the co-design approach means that each new service model will have its own regional characteristics that meets local needs.

Overview

4. The DHB expansion areas have undertaken substantial work since July 2021 to develop a service model in a challenging environment brought about by the impact of Covid-19 on communities and the need to prioritise the pandemic response. The Ministry of Education (MOE) regional offices have been supporting the DHB-led projects by assigning staff to work with project teams and to represent MOE on steering groups. Regional offices have also been working with regional Principal's Associations to ensure education sector representation in steering and/or governance groups, and involvement in the co-design.

5. The service descriptions for Northland and West Coast have been received by MOH and these two areas will begin implementing service delivery in the coming weeks. The service descriptions for Counties Manukau and Bay of Plenty and Lakes, are being finalised for DHB sign-off before being submitted to MOH. A summary of each area's progress is set out in Annex 1.

6. The design of the service has been a complex process and stakeholders have at times expressed concerns relating to a lack of clarity around process. These concerns have been (or are being) responded to by the project team with support from MOH and the regional MOE offices. While the process hasn't always been smooth, the design of the service descriptions has progressed and as noted above, are either being finalised for submission to MOH or have been received by MOH with work underway to finalise contracts.

7. 9(2)(g)(i) [redacted]

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Progress on a Mana Ake service for Counties Manukau DHB

8. The Counties Manukau DHB covers a large, diverse geographic area which includes parts of both the Auckland and Waikato Education regions. The Counties Manukau DHB has a population of approximately 579,000 people which covers the urban area of Manukau City and semi-rural areas of Franklin and Papakura districts.

9. The design of the service description proposal for the Mana Ake service in Counties Manukau started in July 2021 but was put on hold in August 2021 for two months, in response to the impact of regional Covid-19 lockdown(s). The work on the service description resumed in October 2021 and the proposal will be finalised by the end of March. The sign-out process will occur in April with the DHB due to submit the service description proposal to MOH by 30 April 2022.

10. MOE regional office staff have worked with the project team and core stakeholder group to support the design of the service description proposal since the resumption of the project in October 2021. While some education sector representatives have expressed concern about the process, the MOE regional office has advised that recent meetings have been positive and design activities are complete.

11. MOH will review the service description proposal when it is received but no decisions can be made on implementing the Mana Ake service in the Counties Manukau DHB area until after future funding decisions have been made. Pending these decisions, a phased implementation is intended in the DHB area with implementation details to be discussed following the submission of the service description proposal.

Progress on a Mana Ake service for Bay of Plenty and Lakes DHBs

12. The Bay of Plenty DHB has a population of about 259,000 people and covers the area from Waihi Beach in the north-west to Whangaparaoa on the East Cape, and inland to the Urewera, Kaimai and Mamaku ranges. The Lakes DHB has a population of about 116,400 people and covers the area from Lake Rotorua down to Mt Ruapehu.

13. The development of the service description proposal has been complex due to the size of the project, the consultation required, and the ongoing impact of the Covid-19 environment. There has been considerable work undertaken by the project team and stakeholders to complete the design process. During that process where there have been process-related concerns among education sector stakeholders, these have been raised with the project lead and/or the project steering group.

14. The MOE Bay of Plenty Waiariki office has supported the project by asking the four Principal's Associations to nominate representatives to join the steering group. These four Principal representatives were instrumental in gathering people to attend the co-design workshops. The regional office also assigned a staff member as the MOE representative on the steering and lead groups.

15. Early in the co-design process there was strong interest and engagement by eastern Bay of Plenty Kura Kaupapa Māori which was facilitated by the representative from the Eastern Bay of Plenty Principal's Association. This led to the project team seeking permission from the national body - Te Rūnanganui o Ngā Kura Kaupapa Māori o Aotearoa - and Te Maru o Ngā Kura ā Iwi o Aotearoa to engage with all Kura Kaupapa Māori across the Waiariki region. This was completed at the end of February. There is support for the proposed model and the project team has been invited to present at the upcoming Te Rūnanganui o Ngā Kura Kaupapa Māori o Aotearoa hui ā tau (annual conference).

16. The proposal has been referred for sign-out to the regional interagency leadership group (the governance group for the Mana Ake project), with the proposal due with

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MOH by 31 March 2022. MOH will review the service description proposal when it is received but, as with the Counties Manukau DHB area, no decisions can be made on implementing the Mana Ake service until after future funding decisions have been made.

Progress on a Mana Ake service for West Coast DHB

17. The West Coast DHB has a population of about 32,500 people and covers the area from Karamea in the north to Haast in the south.

18. The West Coast is one of two DHB areas that can progress implementation of the Mana Ake service in 2022 using one-off funding from Budget 2021, with ongoing funding of the service dependent on future funding decisions.

19. The development of the Mana Ake service for the West Coast is going well with an agreed service specification and an initial one-year contract from April 2022 to April 2023 being finalised. The MOE regional office is preparing comms to the education sector in consultation with the DHB, and there will be ongoing sector involvement in the service through a governance group which will be set up.

Next Steps

20. The next steps for each DHB area are:

- **Northland**

  The initial contract for commencement of service delivery is being finalised with an expected start date of May 2022 and end date of December 2023.

- **Counties Manukau**

  The service description proposal to be finalised and submitted to MOH by 30 April 2022.

- **Bay of Plenty and Lakes**

  The service description proposal to be finalised and submitted to MOH by 31 March 2022.

- **West Coast**

  The initial contract for commencement of service delivery is being finalised with an expected start date of April 2022 and end date of April 2023.

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Annex 1: Summary of progress on implementing the Mana Ake service by DHB area

		Design	Implementation		
DHB area	Local MOE office	Status of service description proposal	Service specification and contract	Contract details	Location of the Mana Ake service
Northland	Tai Tokerau	Submitted to MOH on 15 December 2021	Contract being finalised	Contract is expected to start in May 2022 and end December 2023 (at the request of Northland DHB), with an expected value of approximately $2.35m - METIS 1283240 refers.	Phased implementation with final decision to be made on initial location.
Counties Manukau	Auckland and Waikato	Due 30 April 2022 Design activities completed and proposal being finalised for sign out before submission to MOH	Dependent on future funding decisions. A phased implementation is intended.		
Bay of Plenty Lakes	Bay of Plenty Waiariki	Due 31 March 2022 Design activities completed and proposal being finalised for sign out before submission to MOH	Dependent on future funding decisions. A phased implementation is intended.		
West Coast	Nelson Marlborough West Coast	Submitted to MOH on 2 February 2022	Contract being finalised	Contract is expected to start in April 2022 and end in April 2023, at a value of approximately $390,000. Service will be delivered through one or more community provider(s).	The service is expected to cover the West Coast DHB area.

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