



Summary: Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People Annual Report 2023 to 2024



Published: January 2025

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About this document



Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People is the part of Government that works to make things better for:

- disabled people
- tāngata whaikaha Māori
- their whānau / families.



It tries to make sure these people have more:

- **rights**
- **opportunities.**



Rights are things that every person should:

- have
- be able to do.



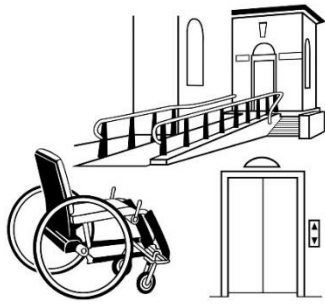
Having **opportunities** means getting the chance to try things.



When you see the word **Whaikaha** in this document it means **Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People**.



Whaikaha pays for **Disability Support Services** for disabled New Zealanders.



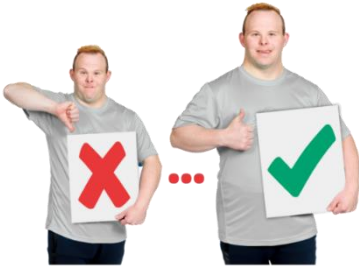
Disability Support Services means things like:

- money the Government gives you to pay for things you need because of your disability
- equipment you need for your disability like a wheelchair
- supported homes for disabled people.

Over 60 thousand disabled New Zealanders get disability support from Whaikaha.

This costs Whaikaha over 2 billion dollars every year.

New Zealand Government

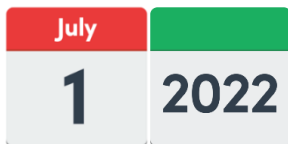


Whaikaha works with other parts of Government to make things better for:

- disabled people
- tāngata whaikaha Māori
- their whānau / families.

Whaikaha does this by:

- listening to the ideas these people have
- working with these people.



Whaikaha started on 1 July 2022.



The **Ministry of Social Development** supports Whaikaha because Whaikaha is still new.



The **Ministry of Social Development** is the part of Government that gives people money so they can have good lives.



Whaikaha has written an **Annual Report**.

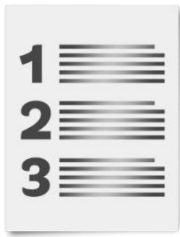


An **Annual Report** is a document that explains what an organisation has done that year.



This Annual Report explains what Whaikaha did from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.

When you see the words **this year** in this document it means from **1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024**.



This Easy Read document is a **summary** of the Annual Report.



A **summary**:

- is shorter than the full document
- tells you the main ideas.



You can read the full Annual Report at:

<https://tinyurl.com/a3zd4smt>



The full Annual Report is **not** in Easy Read.

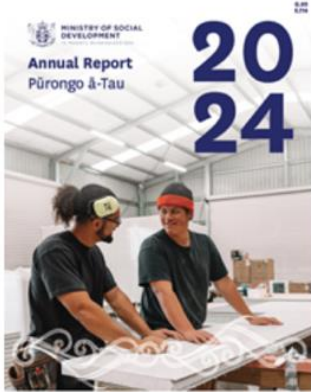


An Annual Report normally tells you about the money an organisation spent that year.



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT**
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

You can read about the money
Whaikaha spent in the 2024 Annual
Report from the Ministry of Social
Development.



You can read the 2024 Annual
Report from the Ministry of Social
Development at:

<https://tinyurl.com/y5ut52z2>



The 2024 Annual Report from the
Ministry of Social Development is **not**
in Easy Read.

The year in numbers



Whaikaha paid for Disability Support Services for over 60 thousand disabled New Zealanders this year.



Of the people who got Disability Support Services this year:

- 2 out of every 5 were people with learning disability
- 2 out of every 5 were people who said autism was their main disability
- 1 out of every 5 were people with a physical disability.





Whaikaha spent over 2 billion dollars on Disability Support Services this year.



The 2 kinds of organisations that get money from Whaikaha to pay for Disability Support Services are:

- **Needs Assessment and Service Coordination**
- **Enabling Good Lives.**



Needs Assessment and Service Coordination organisations work with disabled people to:

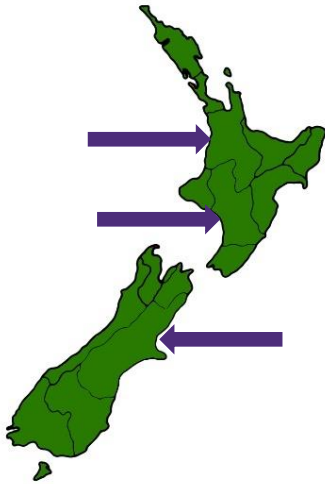
- work out what support the person needs
- decide what Disability Support Services the person gets.





Enabling Good Lives is a new way of deciding what Disability Support Services a person gets.

You can only use Enabling Good Lives if you live in:

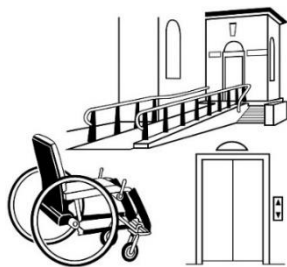


- Waikato
- Mid Central
- Christchurch.



Aotearoa New Zealand has:

- 15 Needs Assessment and Service Coordination organisations
- 3 Enabling Good Lives sites.



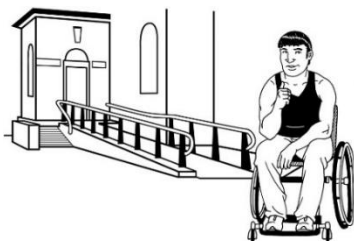
This year nearly 50 thousand people got **Equipment Modification Services**.



Equipment Modification Services

pay for things like:

- equipment a disabled person needs like a wheelchair
- changes to a house to make it easier for a disabled person to live there
- changes to a car so a disabled person can drive it.

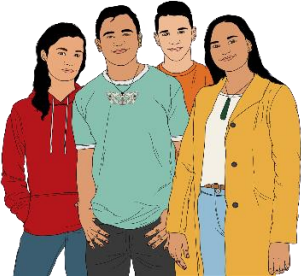


There are 31 **Child Development Services** in Aotearoa New Zealand.



Child Development Services

support disabled children and rangatahi / young people.



Child Development Services

supported 16 thousand children and rangatahi / young people this year.



This year Whaikaha spent more than 2 million dollars on new ideas to make things better for disabled people.



The new ideas Whaikaha spent money on were:

- services led by disabled people and whānau / families
- different ways of delivering Disability Support Services
- **peer support**
- **My Home, My Choice.**



Peer support is when disabled people support other disabled people.



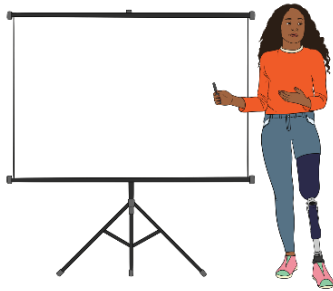
My Home, My Choice supports disabled people to have more:

- choice in their lives
- control in their lives.



There are just over 1 million disabled people in Aotearoa New Zealand.

This means about 1 out of every 4 people in Aotearoa New Zealand are disabled.



Just under half of the people who work at Whaikaha are disabled.



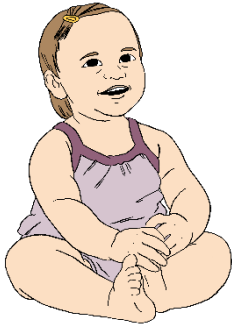
Nearly half of all disabled people in Aotearoa New Zealand are disabled because they are sick.



About 1 out of every 3 disabled people in Aotearoa New Zealand are disabled because they got hurt.



About 1 out of every 4 disabled people in Aotearoa New Zealand are disabled because they are getting older.



About 1 out of every 7 disabled people in Aotearoa New Zealand have been disabled since they were born.

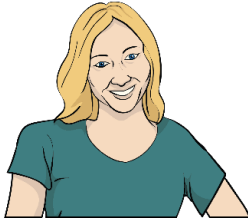


The most common kinds of disability in Aotearoa New Zealand are:

- issues with moving
- issues with hearing.



About 1 out of every 3 Māori people in Aotearoa New Zealand are disabled.



About 1 out of every 4 European people in Aotearoa New Zealand are disabled.



About 1 out of every 4 Pacific people in Aotearoa New Zealand are disabled.



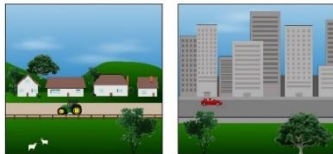
About 1 out of every 6 Asian people in Aotearoa New Zealand are disabled.



This year Whaikaha spent 1 million dollars to support **communities** around Aotearoa New Zealand to better support disabled people.



A **community** is a group of people who have something that is the same about them.



An example of a community is all the people living in a town.



This year Whaikaha had 20 talanoa / meetings with Pacific disabled people and their aiga / families.



These meetings helped Whaikaha to write the **National Pacific Disability Action Plan**.



The **National Pacific Disability Action Plan** will try to make sure disability supports work well for Pacific disabled people and their aiga / families.



This year Whaikaha set up 5 ways it can talk to disabled people and their whānau / families about what they want.



About half of disabled people have more than 1 disability.

Having more than 1 disability is more common in females aged over 65 than in males aged over 65.

What Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People wants to do

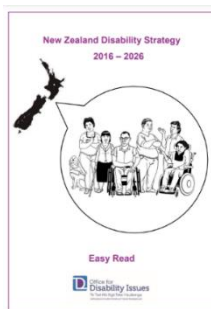


There are 2 documents that tell Government what needs to happen to make Aotearoa New Zealand a better place for disabled people to live.

These documents are:



- the New Zealand Disability Strategy
- the Disability Action Plan.



You can read the New Zealand Disability Strategy in Easy Read at:

<https://tinyurl.com/bdcccptm4>



You can read the Disability Action Plan in Easy Read at:

<https://tinyurl.com/bdxxpkcz7>



These 2 documents tell the Aotearoa New Zealand Government what the **United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** says the Government needs to do.



These 2 documents make sure disabled people get the rights the **United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** says they should get.



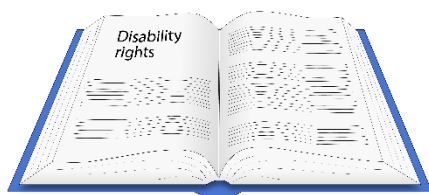
The **United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** is an agreement between lots of countries.

The **United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** says:

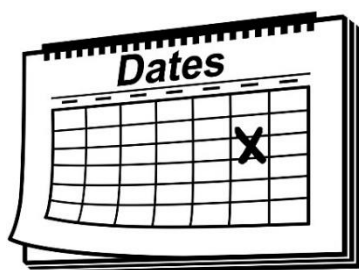


- how disabled people should be treated
- what governments need to do to make sure disabled people get their rights.

The **United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** is also called the **UNCRPD**.



Every year the **Minister for Disability Issues** writes a **report** about how well Aotearoa New Zealand is doing the things the New Zealand Disability Strategy says it needs to do.





The **Minister for Disability Issues** is the person in Government in charge of making sure Aotearoa New Zealand is a good place for disabled people to live.



A **report** is a written document that explains something that has happened.



Every 6 months there is a report about how well Aotearoa New Zealand is doing the things the Disability Action Plan says it needs to do.



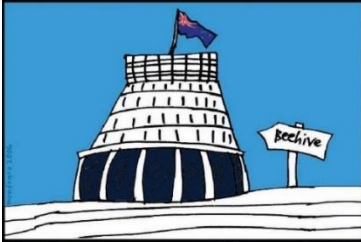
You can read these reports at:

<https://tinyurl.com/bzauxkur>



These reports are **not** in Easy Read.

What other parts of Government have done this year



This year Government has done lots of the things it needs to do because of:

- the New Zealand Disability Strategy
- the Disability Action Plan.

Statistics New Zealand



Statistics New Zealand did the Household Disability Survey 2023.



Statistics New Zealand is the part of Government that finds out important numbers about Aotearoa New Zealand like:

- how many people live here
- how many disabled people live here.

A **survey** is when you ask people questions to find out information.

The **Household Disability Survey 2023** found out information about disabled people in Aotearoa New Zealand.

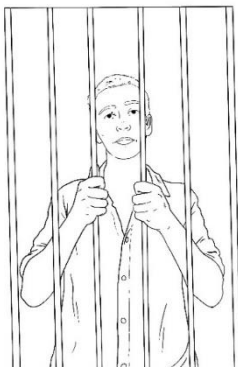
Department of Corrections – Ara Poutama Aotearoa



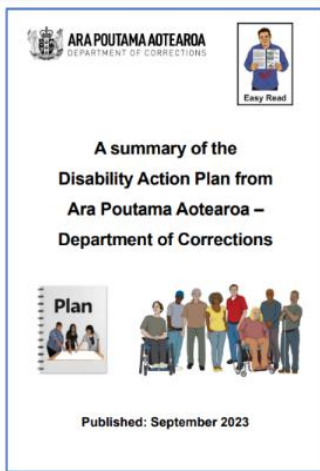
The **Department of Corrections – Ara Poutama Aotearoa** wrote its own Disability Action Plan.



The **Department of Corrections – Ara Poutama Aotearoa** is the part of Government that looks after prisons.



The Department of Corrections – Ara Poutama Aotearoa Disability Action Plan will try to make things better for disabled people in prison.



You can read the Department of Corrections – Ara Poutama Aotearoa Disability Action Plan in Easy Read at:

<https://tinyurl.com/2b2te436>

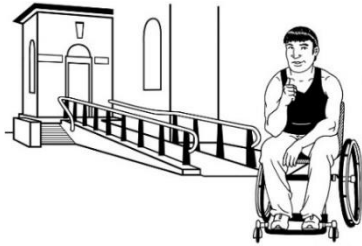


Kāinga Ora

This year **Kāinga Ora** built more **universal design homes** than it needed to.



Kāinga Ora is the part of Government that makes sure people have somewhere to live.



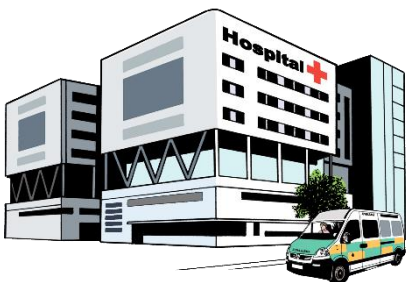
A **universal design home** is a home that a disabled person can easily live in because it has things like:

- ramps
- doorways a wheelchair can get through.

Ministry of Health – Manatū Hauora



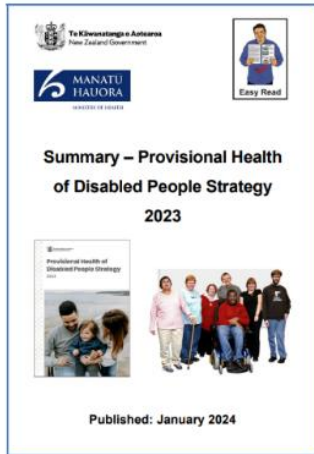
This year the **Ministry of Health – Manatū Hauora** wrote a **Provisional Health of Disabled People Strategy**.



The **Ministry of Health – Manatū Hauora** is the part of Government that makes sure people can be healthy.



The **Provisional Health of Disabled People Strategy** will make sure disabled people in Aotearoa New Zealand can be healthy.



You can read the Provisional Health of Disabled People Strategy in Easy Read at:

<https://tinyurl.com/3y3xjkax>

Disability system transformation



This year Whaikaha has made some changes to the way it works.

These changes are called the **disability system transformation**.

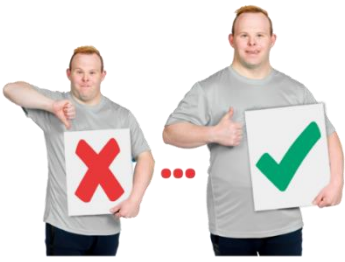


These changes will mean Whaikaha can look after the **disability system** better.

The **disability system** is all the things Government does to make sure disabled people can live good lives in Aotearoa New Zealand.



Transformation means changes.



Whaikaha wants to make the disability system work better for disabled people.



This year Whaikaha asked disabled people what needs to change to make the disability system work better.

High and Complex Framework



The High and Complex Framework is a group of services that support people who:

- have learning disability
- have very high support needs
- have done an **imprisonable offence**
- have support needs that regular services like prisons cannot meet
- come under a law called the **Intellectual Disability (Compulsory Care and Rehabilitation) Act 2003**.





An **imprisonable offence** is when you break the law badly enough that you have to go to prison.



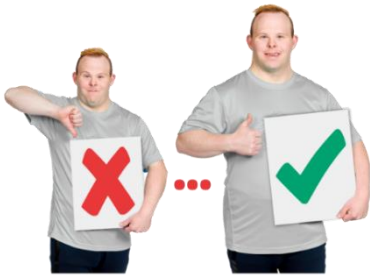
The **Intellectual Disability (Compulsory Care and Rehabilitation) Act 2003** says that people can be looked after by High and Complex Framework services if:



- they have done an imprisonable offence
- they cannot get the support they need in prison.



High and Complex Framework services focus on **rehabilitating** people.



Rehabilitating means supporting a person to change how they behave so that they will not break the law again.



High and Complex Framework services support between 200 and 250 people.



Lots of these people have done a **serious offence**.

A **serious offence** is a very bad crime like killing someone.



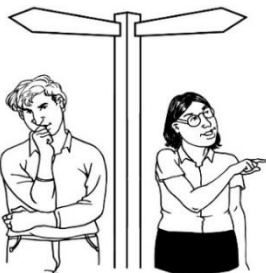
You can read about the High and Complex Framework in Easy Read at:

<https://tinyurl.com/38wbahzk>

My Home, My Choice



My Home, My Choice looks at what changes are needed so that people in **residential services** have more:



- choice in their lives
- control in their lives.



Residential services are when disabled people:

- live in a home / flat in the community
- get support all through the day / night.



This year Whaikaha has made more **peer support** available as part of My Home, My Choice.



Peer support is when disabled people support other disabled people.



This year Whaikaha has worked on finding **evidence** to show that My Home, My Choice is good for disabled people.



Evidence is information that says how well something is working.



This year Whaikaha set up an **Intensive Response Team**.

The **Intensive Response Team** will work with people who need support to get to a better home right now.



This year Whaikaha has worked on making sure My Home, My Choice has good options for tāngata whaikaha Māori / Māori disabled people.



This year Whaikaha has made housing **separate** from other supports people get as part of My Home, My Choice.



Separate means that getting housing as part of My Home, My Choice has nothing to do with other supports you get as part of My Home, My Choice.



This year Whaikaha has worked with people who provide My Home, My Choice in the community to make sure they:



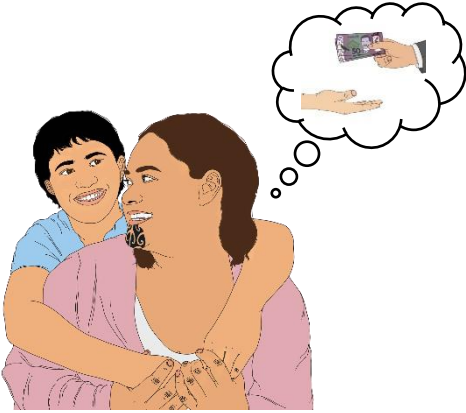
- know about all the options disabled people should have
- are always getting better at supporting disabled people.



You can read about My Home, My Choice in Easy Read at:

<https://tinyurl.com/yxzufum2>

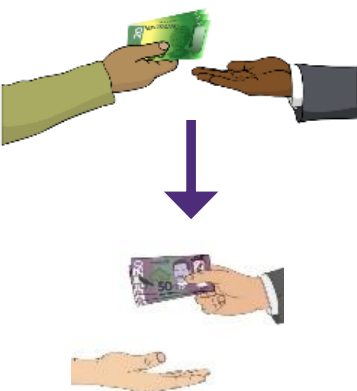
Paid family carers



A paid family carer is a whānau / family member a disabled person pays to support them.

You can have a paid family carer if:

- you need a support worker
- the Government would need to pay for someone else to be your support worker if your whānau / family could not be your support worker.



It costs more for disabled people to have **Individualised Funding** and other flexible supports than the old way of paying for family carers.



Individualised Funding is the name of one of the types of money you can get from Disability Support Services.



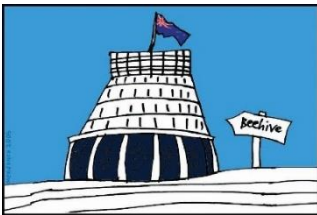
Whaikaha has used paid family carer funding to pay for these higher costs.

Contributions and key reviews this year



Listening, learning, changing
Mā Whakarongo me Ako ka huri te tai
Crown Response to the Abuse in Care Inquiry

This year Whaikaha has supported the **Crown Response** to the **Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in State and Faith Based Care**.



A **Crown Response** is when Government does the things an **inquiry** says it needs to do.



An **inquiry** is when you look closely at something to find out:

- what went wrong
- what needs to change to stop things going wrong again.

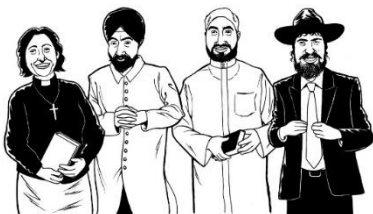


The **Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in State and Faith Based Care** found out information about how people were hurt in:

- **state care**
- **faith based care.**



State care is when the Government is in charge of looking after you.



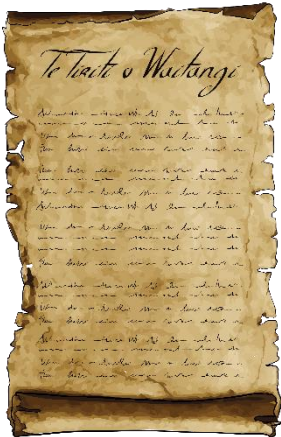
Faith based care is when a religious group like a church is in charge of looking after you.



This year Whaikaha has supported the Crown Response to the **Waitangi Tribunal** inquiry about how well the health system works for Māori.



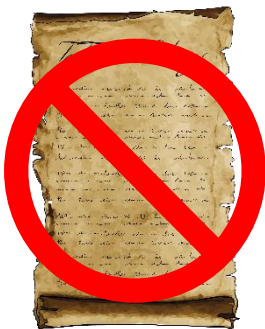
The **Waitangi Tribunal** finds out about **breaches of Te Tiriti o Waitangi / The Treaty of Waitangi.**



Te Tiriti o Waitangi / The Treaty of Waitangi is a legal document that was signed in 1840.

It is about Māori and the Aotearoa New Zealand Government:

- making decisions together
- protecting things that are important to Māori.



A **breach** is when the Aotearoa New Zealand Government does something Te Tiriti o Waitangi / The Treaty of Waitangi says it should not do.



This year Whaikaha looked at how it manages **contracts** to make sure:

- it looks after contracts well
- it does not waste money
- the contracts mean Whaikaha is **legally protected**.



A **contract** is a **legal** agreement between:

- people
- organisations.

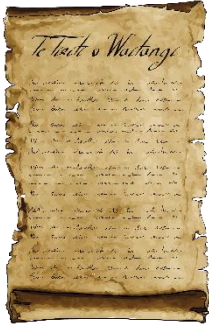


Legal means special rules about what you can do.



Legally protected means Whaikaha can get help if the special rules are broken.

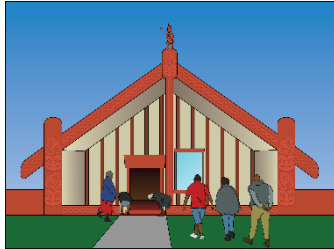
Supporting Te Tiriti o Waitangi relationships



Whaikaha wants to do the things Te Tiriti o Waitangi / The Treaty of Waitangi says it needs to do to make things better for Māori.



This year Whaikaha set up a new job called the Kaihautū – Chief Advisor Māori.



The Kaihautū – Chief Advisor Māori makes sure:

- Whaikaha has a good relationship with Māori
- disability supports work with Māori culture
- Whaikaha tries new things that make things better for tāngata whāikaha Māori / Māori disabled people.

Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care



Listening, learning, changing
Mā Whakarongo me Ako ka huri te tai
Crown Response to the Abuse in Care Inquiry

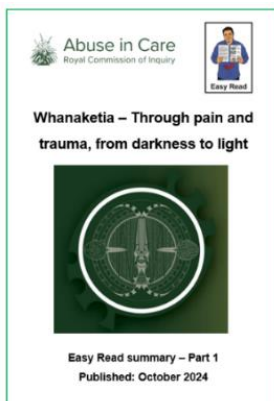


The Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in State and Faith Based Care found out information about how people were hurt in:

- state care
- faith based care.



The Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in State and Faith Based Care wrote a report this year.



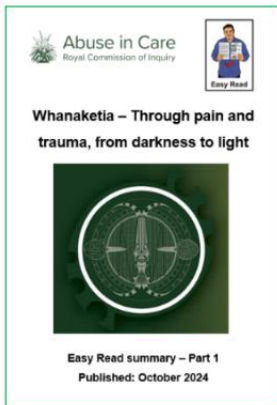
The report is called **Whanaketia – Through pain and trauma, from darkness to light.**



The report was given to **Parliament** in July 2024.



Parliament is where all of the politicians in Aotearoa New Zealand work together to make laws.



You can read Whanaketia – Through pain and trauma, from darkness to light in Easy Read at:

<https://tinyurl.com/3khc9rz6>

Where to find more information



You can contact Whaikaha if you:

- have questions about this Annual Report
- want more information.

You can contact Whaikaha by:



- phone on:

0800 566 601



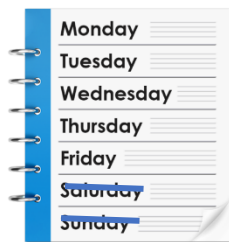
- text message on:

4206



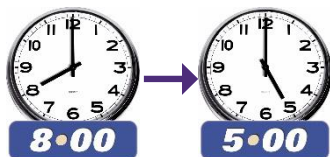
- email at:

contact@whaikaha.govt.nz



You can phone us:

- Monday to Friday
- 8 am to 5 pm.



If you find it hard to use the phone the **New Zealand Relay** service is for people who are:

- Deaf / hard of hearing
- deafblind
- speech impaired / find it hard to talk.



You can find out more about the New Zealand Relay service at:

www.nzrelay.co.nz



This information has been written by Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People.



It has been translated into Easy Read by the Make it Easy Kia Māmā Mai service of People First New Zealand Ngā Tāngata Tuatahi.



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