



Maternity Commissioning Framework

Technical Advisory Group Information Pack

Kia ora!

Thank you for expressing your interest in joining the Technical Advisory Group (TAG). We are thrilled that you're interested in being part of this important mahi, and we truly appreciate your commitment to improving maternity care across Aotearoa.

Below, you'll find the EOI documentation acknowledging your interest in developing a commissioning framework for primary maternity services; the Maternity Commissioning Framework (the Framework). This will be more than just a framework—it will be a new way of commissioning that seeks to ensure that every whānau, no matter where they live, has access to the maternity services they need, when they need them.

The Maternity Commissioning Framework will provide national consistency over a framework that is flexible enough to enable local-level solutions that are regionally designed and delivered to meet the needs of each community. At the heart of the Framework is the goal that pregnant people and their whānau clearly understand the services available to them and can access these services in a timely and supportive way.

We see the establishment of the Technical Advisory Group as an opportunity to bring together a range of maternity system expertise to ensure that all kaimahi, providers, services, and system enablers are activated to enhance and support a collective and integrated approach to care provision. We are seeking broad representation of perspectives and expertise, which will be crucial in shaping the future of primary maternity services.

The EOI period is between 16-30 October, and you can expect to hear from us by 4 November 2024 with the next steps, including interviews or further discussions if necessary. We will notify all respondents, whether successful or not, on 12 November 2024. If you have any questions in the meantime, please don't hesitate to reach out to us at maternity@tewhatauora.govt.nz.

We are excited to begin this journey with you, and we sincerely thank you for your interest and dedication to shaping the future of maternity services for whānau across Aotearoa.

Ngā mihi nui,



Deborah Woodley
Director, Starting Well



About the TAG | Maternity Commissioning Framework

Tēnei tūranga – About the role

This is a unique opportunity to work with Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora and be part of a transformative project to improve maternity services for pregnant people and their whānau across Aotearoa. As a member of the Technical Advisory Group, you will provide advice and insights to help inform the design and development of the Maternity Commissioning Framework. Your role will be advisory, and while the final decision will be made by Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora, your contributions will be crucial in shaping its direction.

We're looking for individuals who are passionate about creating real change and who bring a blend of knowledge, experience, and heart to the table. As a Technical Advisory Group member, you will:

- Champion the role of the community midwife, understanding their critical importance in delivering care and support to whānau.
- Provide insights on improving access to services, offering advice on how whānau can better understand and find the care they're entitled to, while guiding us on how to make access smoother and more equitable.
- Understand commissioning, especially the balance between national consistency and regionally-led, locally-tailored solutions that work for diverse communities.
- Bring expertise in integrated care - understanding how community maternity services fit into the wider health system, through primary, secondary and tertiary care.
- Draw on research and evidence, using your knowledge of the latest literature on maternity services and commissioning to inform and enrich this project.

Time Commitment & Meetings: Technical Advisory Group members are expected to commit to scheduled days between October 2024 and June 2025, including attending at least 13 meetings. This role is non-delegable, meaning your personal contribution will be essential throughout the process.

Online meetings are currently scheduled for the following Friday mornings:

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| • 22 November 2024 | • 21 March 2025 |
| • 6 December 2024 | • 4 April 2025 |
| • 17 January 2025 | • 11 April 2025 |
| • 24 January 2025 | • 25 April 2025 |
| • 31 January 2025 | • 9 May 2025 |
| • 14 February 2025 | • 23 May 2025 |
| • 7 March 2025 | |

Compensation: The role is compensated in accordance with the [Cabinet Fees Framework](#), covering both fees and rules.

The Technical Advisory Group will also support ongoing engagement with critical stakeholders, and Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora may request additional advice as needed.

Outputs from the TAG

Whilst the end product is to be defined by the TAG, we expect it will be made-up of five sections:

Strategic Context

Government goals and priorities, statutory obligations, fundamental delivery principles, procurement principles, Intervention Logic Map (ILM) guides design principles for local models of care.

The Framework

The nationally consistent framework that regions can use to design locally tailored services. Templates and guidance on how to use.

Engagement and Relationships

Building and maintaining strong networks and relationships through positive and frequent engagement is a pre-condition for success. This chapter provides a single source of truth for engagement principles and templates.

Investment and Procurement

Describes the progressive transition to outcomes-based commissioning. The importance of Lead Maternity Carers (LMCs) in understanding whānau needs and the regional commissioner role in enabling this. It will also acknowledge the current limitations around funding and steps beyond this.

Assurance, Research, and Performance

How Health NZ is providing system assurance; confirming all the frameworks, tools, processes used to monitor the achievement of maternity outcomes. This chapter will also describe learning and evaluative principles and mechanisms, as well as transparency expectations at all layers.

Ngā pukenga me ngā wheako e hiahiatia ana – Skills and experience we're looking for

We know that working closely with experts is key to making big changes happen and achieving the vision set out in the Pae Ora legislation. We're looking for individuals who share our passion for improving maternity outcomes and who bring the following skills and qualities:

- **Strategic thinkers:** You can think big without getting lost in theory, and you're practical without being too tactical. You're able to see the bigger picture while keeping things simple and clear.
- **Analytical problem solvers:** You're great at breaking down complex issues, digging into the root causes, and helping us find solutions that really work.
- **Great listeners:** You know how to listen closely to other viewpoints and can balance thoughtful discussion with action. You're able to set aside your own views when necessary to focus on what's best for pregnant people, their whānau, and the communities they live in.
- **Commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi:** You are committed to upholding the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, and to supporting the goals of the Pae Ora reforms with a focus on better outcomes for all.

We're building a team with a wide range of expertise, including:

Skills:

- **Balancing conversation and action:** You know when to discuss, when to reflect, and when to make things happen.
- **Facilitating breakthroughs:** You're good at helping teams reach "aha" moments that drive progress.
- **Being practical:** You can adapt to different situations and find practical solutions that work in various contexts.
- **Comfort with uncertainty:** You're okay with not always having all the answers right away and can still navigate through ambiguity.

- **Staying neutral:** You're able to keep an open mind and approach challenges without being tied to one particular perspective.
- **Simplifying complexity:** You're able to use analytical approaches without over-complicating things.

Knowledge:

- **Community midwifery:** You understand the critical role midwives play in community care.
- **Access to health services:** You know how pregnant people and their whānau find out about the services they're entitled to.
- **Commissioning:** You understand commissioning models and how services are funded and organised.
- **Mātauranga Māori:** You have a solid understanding of Māori knowledge and perspectives.
- **Pacific health:** You bring knowledge of Pacific health practices and needs.
- **Clinical expertise:** Whether you're a midwife, obstetrician, GP, or neonatologist, your clinical experience is key.

Experience:

- **Pae Ora reforms:** You've worked with the objectives of the Pae Ora reforms and know how to stay focused on improving outcomes.
- **Health data and digital:** You're familiar with how digital tools and data can enhance healthcare services.
- **Health infrastructure:** You know about the structures, systems, and resources that support healthcare in the broadest sense.
- **Consumer groups:** You've worked with health consumer groups to ensure their voices are heard.
- **Rainbow communities:** You have experience working with Rainbow communities to support their health needs.
- **Tangata Whaikaha:** You've worked with disabled people and know how to meet their unique health needs.
- **Indian whānau:** You've worked with Indian families and understand their perspectives and needs within the health system.

Now that might seem like a lot, but remember that we're not looking for one person with all the things, but a group with people who individually are really good at a handful of things. Together, as a group, you would provide the full suite of skills, knowledge and experience necessary to drive this system change.

Ētahi kōrero mō Kahu Taurima – About Kahu Taurima

The first 2,000 days lay the foundation for a child's entire future. It is a critical period that impacts lifetime health and wellbeing. Evidence supports investment in and support for the first 2,000 days so every child gets the strongest start to life.

Kahu Taurima will strengthen maternity and early years' service delivery through the integration of care from pre-conception through to a child's first 2,000 days. 'Kahu' speaks to the korowai or cloak of services that wraps support around all families/whānau. 'Taurima' describes caring for what is most cherished – our babies/pēpi, children/tamariki, and families/whānau.

The Kahu Taurima programme encompasses the outcome of recommendations from the Well Child Tamariki Ora (WCTO) Review, the Perinatal Morbidity and Mortality Review Committee and the Health and Disability System Review. Kahu Taurima seeks to address the existing gaps and challenges in the current maternity and early years healthcare system.

Me pēhea te tono – How to apply:

Simply complete and sign the EOI Response Form and return it to maternity@tewhatauora.govt.nz by midday on 30 October 2024. Feel free to link reports, videos or other content for us that can support your application. Alternatively, you can attach them to your email back. We look forward to hearing from you!