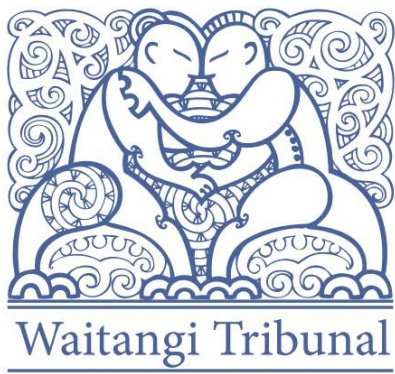




Waitangi Tribunal

Hauwhaikaha Report:

Chapter 7 – Funding

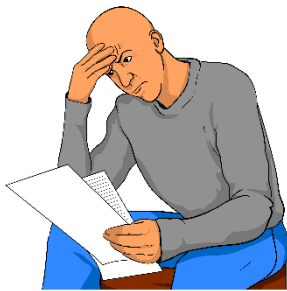


Published: September 2026

Before you begin



This is a long document.



It can be hard for some people to read a document this long.

Some things you can do to make it easier are:



- read it a few pages at a time
- set aside some quiet time to look at it
- have someone read it with you to support you to understand it.



What you will find in here

Page number:



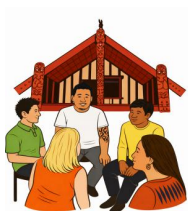
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About this Easy Read



This Easy Read is from the **Waitangi Tribunal**.



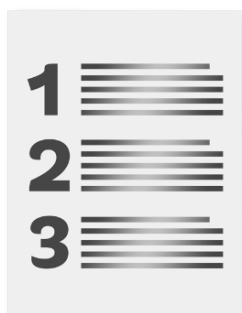
More information about the **Waitangi Tribunal** is on **page 11**.



Where it says **we / us** this means the Waitangi Tribunal.



This Easy Read is a **summary** of **Chapter 7 – Funding** in the **Hauwhaikaha Report**.



A **summary**:

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



The **Hauwhaikaha Report** is:

- from the **Health Services and Outcomes Inquiry** by the Waitangi Tribunal
- about **claims** that have to do with the disability system.



The **Health Services and Outcomes Inquiry** is about claims made about Aotearoa New Zealand health:

- services
- outcomes / how things turn out for people in life.

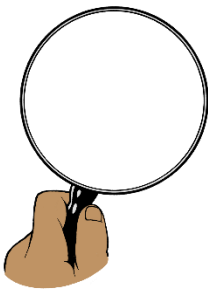


In this document the **Health Services and Outcomes Inquiry** will be called **the inquiry**.



Here a **claim** means someone:

- has told the Waitangi Tribunal that the Government has done something against **Te Tiriti o Waitangi / The Treaty of Waitangi**
- wants the Waitangi Tribunal to look into it.



In this document the word **claimants** means people who have made claims to the Waitangi Tribunal about the disability system.



More information about **Te Tiriti o Waitangi / The Treaty of Waitangi** is on **pages 10 to 11**.



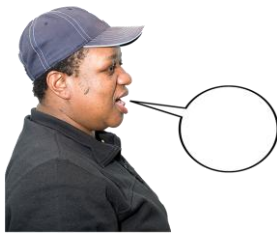
In this document where you see the words **taangata whaikaha Maaori** this means Maaori disabled people.



Te reo Maaori / the Maaori language usually uses **macrons**.

ā ē ī ō ū

Macrons are lines above letters that show you how to say that word.



In te reo Maaori / the Maaori language a macron means to say that letter longer.

Aa ee ii oo uu

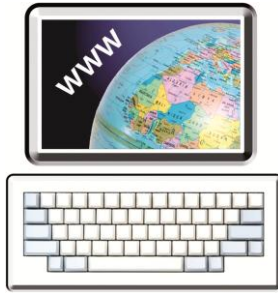
The Hauwhaikaha Report uses double letters instead of macrons.

Maaori / Māori

For example Maaori is the same as Māori.



This is so some people can read the words more easily.

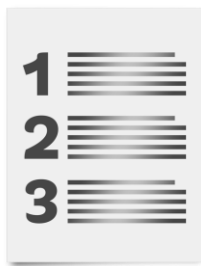


You can read the full Hauwhaikaha Report at this website:

www.bit.ly/Hauwhaikaha



The full report is **not** in Easy Read.

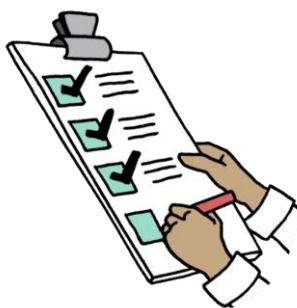


There are summaries of each chapter if you do not want to read the full Hauwhaikaha Report.



The summaries of each chapter are available in Easy Read at this website:

www.bit.ly/Hauwhaikaha-easy



The summaries of each chapter give an outline of:

- important issues
- things that were found out.



The summaries do not include all the:

- **analysis**
- **evidence.**



Here **analysis** means discussion / thinking about what was found out.

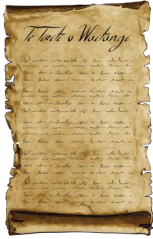


Here **evidence** is information about something like:

- what people said
- what happened to people
- Records / files.



What is Te Tiriti o Waitangi / The Treaty of Waitangi?



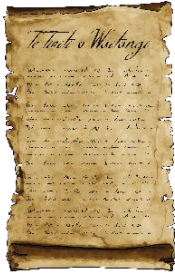
Te Tiriti o Waitangi / The Treaty of Waitangi:

- is an agreement signed between:
 - the Crown
 - and
 - Maaori
- was signed in 1840
- is about the:
 - promises made
 - **obligations** for everyone.





Obligations are important things that have to be done.



In this document Te Tiriti o Waitangi / The Treaty of Waitangi will be called **Te Tiriti / The Treaty**.



Where it says the **Crown** in this document this means the **government**.

What is the Waitangi Tribunal?



The Waitangi Tribunal:

- is a **commission of inquiry**
- listens to claims
- decides if the Government broke a promise made in Te Tiriti / The Treaty
- makes **recommendations** about claims Maaori have made about the Crown.

A **commission of inquiry** is a group of people put together by the Government who learn about things that happened.



Here **recommendations** are advice that would:

- fix a problem
- make things better.

Why are there claims?

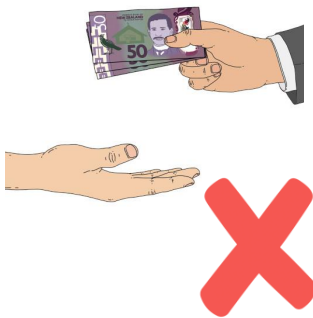


Governments of Aotearoa New Zealand have not always kept to the promises made in Te Tiriti / The Treaty.



Maaori can go to the Waitangi Tribunal to talk about the Government not keeping the promises made in Te Tiriti / The Treaty.

Are kaupapa Maaori providers underfunded?



Claimants said that **kaupapa Maaori providers** do not get enough funding to do:

- health services
- disability services.



A **kaupapa Maaori provider** is a health or disability service:

- owned by Maaori
- run by Maaori.



This makes it harder for providers to do services for taangata whaikaha Maaori.



Providers said they use their own money to pay for some things.



Not having enough funding means taangata whaikaha Maaori do not get care that meets their **cultural needs**.



Culture is a way of:

- thinking that a group shares
- doing things as a group.



Cultural needs means things that are necessary to someone because of their culture.

The Crown says they do not know how:



- many kaupapa Maaori providers there are
- much money is given to kaupapa Maaori providers.

The Crown:

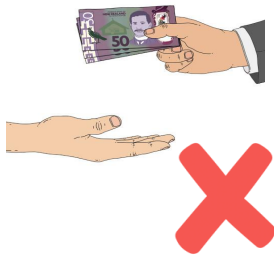


- talked about ways of funding providers

but

- did not talk about the claims that kaupapa Maaori providers were not getting enough funding.





We found that kaupapa Maaori providers do not get enough funding to do services that meet the cultural needs of taangata whaikaha Maaori.



We could not work out if kaupapa Maaori providers got the same amount of funds as providers who are not kaupapa Maaori because of the lack of monitoring by the Crown



Here **monitoring** means watching how something is going.

Do taangata whaikaha Maaori and their whaanau get enough funding?



Claimants said the funding they get for disability support does not match their needs including:

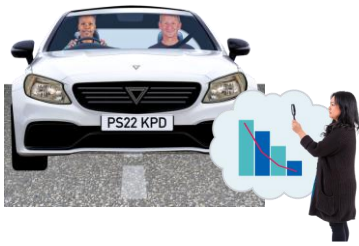
- carers not being paid for in full
- some costs not being paid for in full.



This means taangata whaikaha Maaori:

- must pay for some things
- cannot always get the services they need
- do not get the care they need if they do not have enough money.





Claimants said they did not get enough funding for travel.



Not having enough funding for travel affects a lot of taangata whaikaha Maaori who live in rural / out of town areas.

The Crown:



- did not talk about these claims

but

- did say access to funding for travel is a problem.

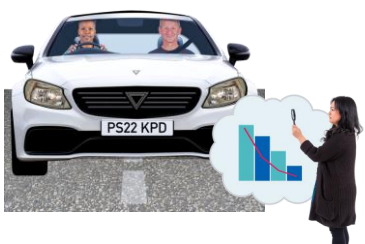


We found that money from the Government is not enough to meet the needs of taangata whaikaha Maaori.



This means taangata whaikaha
Maaori do not get:

- good access to care
- funding for transport.

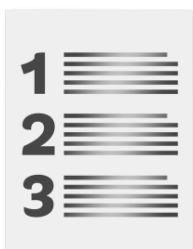


Are contracts for kaupapa Maaori providers fair?



Kaupapa Maaori providers said their **contracts** with the Crown are not:

- fair
- the same as providers who are not kaupapa Maaori.



Here a **contract** is a written agreement that has:

- the rules about what must be done
- information about how much funds service providers get.



Claimants said:

- providers who are not kaupapa Maaori are treated better when asking for contracts
- contracts for kaupapa Maaori providers:
 - go for a shorter time
 - get less money
- kaupapa Maaori providers are **audited** more often than other providers.



Audit means doing an official check of:

- how something is being done
- if something is working as it should.



The Crown said it is doing work to understand how many contracts it has with kaupapa Maaori providers.



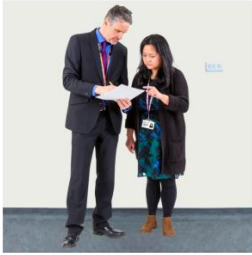
The Crown said it is hard to understand the contracts they have with kaupapa Maaori providers because:



- different contracts go for different lengths of time
- older contracts have changed.



The Crown did not agree that kaupapa Maaori providers do not get as many contracts.



The Crown said all providers who have contracts with them get the same:

- audits
- monitoring.



We found that cultural needs are not supported enough in the contracts.



We do not have enough information to know if contracts are equitable / fair.

Can taangata whaikaha Maaori get good access to government funding?



Claimants said funding is hard to access / apply for.



Claimants said the funding system is hard to understand because funding comes from lots of places with different rules.

Claimants said:



- a lot of the time they do not know what funds they can get
- doing applications for funding can:
 - be confusing
 - take a lot of time.





Some claimants said they give up on getting funding because it is too hard.



Claimants said one of the most difficult funding to get is **reimbursement** for travel.



Reimbursement is when you:

- pay for something first
- then**
- ask to get the money back.



The Crown said they know the disability system is:

- made up of many different parts
- hard to use.





The Crown said they are trying to fix the problems with the disability system.



We found that funding is hard to access / get because of:

- bad information
- applications being hard to do.



This means taangata whaikaha Maaori miss out on the funding they should be getting.

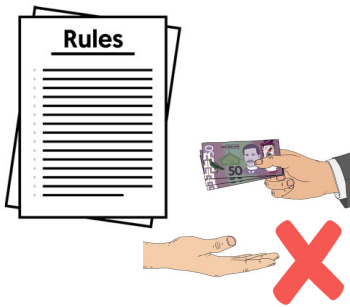


We found the Crown did not give enough evidence that access to funding was being made better.

Do eligibility criteria unfairly restrict access to funding?



Taangata whaikaha Maaori must meet criteria / rules to get some kinds of funding.



Claimants said the criteria / rules that are in place now make it hard to get funding.

**Disability
Support Services**

Claimants said criteria / rules make it very hard to get funding from Disability Support Services / DSS.



Claimants said the process to meet criteria / rules for Needs Assessment and Service Coordination / NASC:

- does not fit with Maaori views of disability
- is very slow.

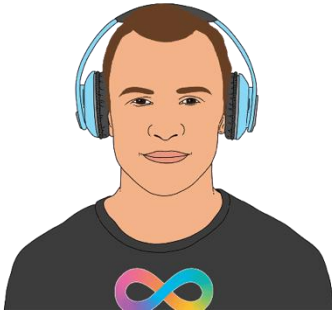
The Crown said they know that:

- criteria / rules is a **barrier** to funding
- not all disabilities are covered by funding.

A **barrier** is something that can make it harder or impossible for you to do something.



The Crown said it has made the criteria / rules clearer by saying people with **autism** can get funding.



People with **autism** have brains that work differently from the brains of people who do not have autism.

Their brains work differently:



- in lots of different ways
- in ways that are often different to other autistic people.



The Crown said it has also done work to make the Needs Assessment and Service Coordination / NASC process better.



The criteria / rules do not include all:

- disabilities
- disorders.



We found that the Needs Assessment and Service Coordination / NASC process needs to be made better so it is easier for people to get funding.

Is funding for taangata whaikaha Maaori flexible enough?



Claimants said the funding they get is not flexible enough to:

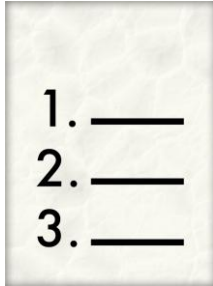
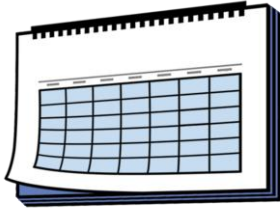
- use as they want
- choose the support they need.



1 of the biggest problems is finding ways to pay whaanau / family carers.



Claimants also said ways of doing flexible funding put in by the Crown can sometimes be hard to use.



The Crown said it:

- understood problems with flexible funding had been going on for a long time
- had put in different ways of doing flexible funding.

1 way flexible funding had been changed was that whaanau carers are now paid from Disability Support Services / DSS.

We found flexible funding does not work as it should.

Tribunal findings



We found there are many barriers to getting funding for:

- taangata whaikaha Maaori

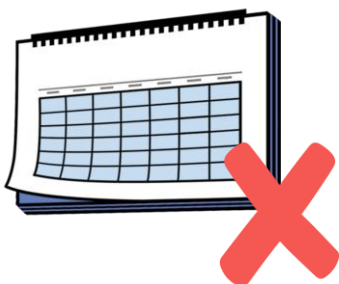
and

- their whaanau / families.



This means the care they need sometimes:

- does not happen as fast as it should
- is not good quality
- does not last for a long time.





Te Tiriti / The Treaty **principles** that are important to these barriers are:

- **active protection**
- **equity**
- **options.**



Here **principles** are ideas / beliefs that tell people:

- about what Te Tiriti / The Treaty means to people now
- the obligations the government has to Maaori.



The principles come from the words of Te Tiriti / The Treaty.

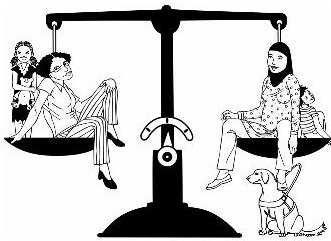


Here **active protection** means the Crown has to protect things that are important to Maaori.



Equity means taangata whaikaha Maori

- are treated fairly
- get what they need to live a good life
- get the same things as other people.



The principle of active protection means the Crown must make sure Maaori can get health services that:

- are good for their cultural needs
- make sure things are made fairer for Maaori.



We found the Crown is **in breach** of the principle of active protection because kaupapa Maaori providers do not get enough funding.



Here **in breach** means:

- rules have not been followed
- things have not been done like they were promised.



The principle of equity means the Crown must make sure taangata whaikaha Maaori have access to services that is:



- fair
- as good as it is for disabled people who are not Maaori.



We found the Crown is in breach of the principle of equity because taangata whaikaha Maaori face barriers to getting funding.



This is especially true for funding that you can only get through reimbursement.



The principle of options means taangata whaikaha Maaori can choose the services they get from the provider they want.



This choice should not change the quality of care they get.



We found the Crown is in breach of the principle of options because:

- there is not enough funding
- the limits on how funding can be used
- kaupapa Maaori providers do not get enough funding to do services that meet cultural needs.



We found:

- the Crown is trying to fix some barriers to funding

but

- there are still barriers to getting funding.

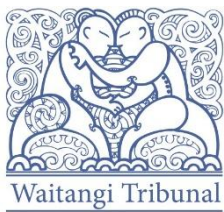




We found the Crown has not done all the things it could to:

- find all the barriers to funding
- fix the barriers to funding.





This information has been written by the Waitangi Tribunal.



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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