

**Government Response to the  
Report of the Justice Committee  
on  
the report of the Ombudsman, Kia Whaitake | Making a Difference:  
Investigation into Department of Corrections | Ara Poutama  
Aotearoa**

**Presented to the House of Representatives  
In accordance with Standing Order 252**

# Government response to Report of the Justice Committee on the report of the Ombudsman, Kia Whaitake | Making a Difference: Investigation into Ara Poutama Aotearoa | Department of Corrections

## Introduction

- 1 The Government has carefully considered the Justice Committee's (the Committee) report on the Ombudsman's report, *Kia Whaitake | Making a Difference: Investigation into Department of Corrections | Ara Poutama Aotearoa* (the Report).
- 2 The Government welcomes the Committee's report, which summarises Ombudsman's findings and recommends that the Government consider renewing the Hōkai Rangī 2019–2024 strategy (Hōkai Rangī).
- 3 Corrections acknowledges the Committee's report findings and agrees there are areas of improvement that will require strategic effort over a sustained period. Corrections has provided a response to the findings of Kia Whaitake.<sup>1</sup> The proposed Government response focuses on the Committee's recommendation to renew Hōkai Rangī.
- 4 Hōkai Rangī was released in August 2019 in response to the Waitangi Tribunal's 2017 report, *Tū Mai te Rangī!* Hōkai Rangī expressed Corrections' commitment to addressing the significant over-representation of Māori in the corrections system and identified six key strategic areas for change and specific actions.
- 5 Corrections is in the process of refreshing Hōkai Rangī. It will:
  - 5.1 provide a clearer narrative on Corrections' strategic context;
  - 5.2 outline Corrections three interconnected organisational outcomes, including a commitment to reducing Māori overrepresentation;
  - 5.3 retain the six pou<sup>2</sup> (key focus areas), which guide how Corrections works.
- 6 Corrections anticipates that the refreshed Hōkai Rangī will be launched before the end of 2024.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.corrections.govt.nz/resources/inquiries\\_and\\_reviews/kia\\_whaitake\\_-\\_making\\_a\\_difference\\_investigation\\_into\\_ara\\_poutama\\_aotearoa\\_department\\_of\\_corrections](https://www.corrections.govt.nz/resources/inquiries_and_reviews/kia_whaitake_-_making_a_difference_investigation_into_ara_poutama_aotearoa_department_of_corrections)

<sup>2</sup> Partnership and Leadership; Whakapapa; Humanising and Healing; Whānau; Incorporating a Te Ao Māori worldview; and Foundations for Participation.

## Recommendations

It is recommended the Justice Committee:

- 1 **note** that on 20 September 2024, The Justice Committee released its final report on the Ombudsman's report *Kia Whaitake | Making a Difference: Investigation into Ara Poutama Aotearoa | Department of Corrections* concluding with the recommendation that "*the Government consider renewing the Hōkai Rangi 2019–2024 strategy*".
- 2 **note** the Government has considered the Justice Committee's report and its recommendation.
- 3 **note** the Government has provided this summary of Corrections' intention to refresh the Hōkai Rangi 2019–2024 strategy.
- 4 **note** that Corrections has advised that the refreshed Hōkai Rangi strategy is expected to be released before the end of 2024.