

Cover Note

To	Government Ministers
From	Hon. Karen Chhour, Minister for the Prevention of Family and Sexual Violence
Date	29 October 2024
Subject	Draft Second Te Aorerekura Action Plan
For	<input type="checkbox"/> Approval <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Review and Comment <input type="checkbox"/> Action <input type="checkbox"/> Noting
Attachments	Cabinet Paper Draft Second Action Plan

Purpose

1. Attached to this paper is the draft cabinet paper seeking approval for the second Te Aorerekura Action Plan (Action Plan), for Ministerial Consultation. The purpose of this note is to:
 - Set out the process and timeline for finalising the plan
 - Summarise feedback received from FVSV Ministers and how these have been addressed in the plan.

Background

2. Rates of family violence and sexual violence in New Zealand remain stubbornly high (e.g. 1 in 2 women experience intimate partner violence in their lifetime).
3. Government has set nine ambitious targets to focus public sector efforts towards, including two law and order targets:
 - Reduced violent crime – 20,000 fewer victims of assault, robbery, and sexual assault
 - Reduced child and youth offending – 15% reduction in serious and persistent youth offending
4. To make a meaningful impact on these targets and keep people safe, levels of family violence and sexual violence must come down.

5. This Action Plan sets a path for delivering change, specifying how Government will respond to the persistent problem of violence.

High Level Feedback from FVSV Ministers Group

6. I have been supported throughout the plan development process by a group of Ministers with a strong interest in Family Violence and Sexual Violence (FVSV). This has included the Ministers of:
 - Social Development and Disability Issues
 - Justice
 - Police and Corrections
 - Seniors (and Associate Health (FVSV) portfolio)
 - Education
 - Māori Development
 - ACC and Mental Health
 - Women
 - Ethnic Communities
7. Delivering this Action Plan is the end of a long journey involving communities and the specialist sector as well as Government agencies and FVSV Ministers.
8. At the most recent FVSV Ministers meeting, Ministers agreed to progress the Action Plan through a cabinet process. The following feedback on the draft Action Plan was also provided:
 - Ensuring greater visibility of population groups upfront in the plan, with specific reference to the programmes underway to respond to elder abuse
 - Rationale for the regions selected, noting Waikato as a potential region for improvements
 - Strengthening Appendix 2 which sets out the breadth of agency FVSV activities underway across Government, to ensure a more comprehensive reflection of existing governance investment in reducing FVSV.
9. In response to FVSV Ministerial feedback, the Action Plan has a dedicated section upfront which speaks to the disproportionality of violence experienced

by some population groups as well as greater visibility of population-based FVSV programmes underway.

10. The addition of Waikato as one of the regions for multi-agency improvements was explored. Initial findings have shown that delivering the scale of improvements needed would require shifting a significant amount of resource from the surrounding regions. Given the complicated stakeholder arrangements in the region, it may also be difficult achieving the accelerated timeframes set in the Action Plan. As we move through the tranches of improvements, I intend to continue to review whether we are focused in the right localities to ensure meaningful progress.

Next Steps

11. Departmental consultation on the Cabinet Paper took place from 10 – 18 October. The timeline in the run up to publishing the plan is set out below.

Table 1: Action Plan Timeline

Key milestones	Date
Ministerial consultation	29 October and 11 November
Social Outcomes Committee	20 November
Cabinet	25 November
Proposed Launch Event	15 December

12. Given the compressed timeframes, I will be reaching out to Ministerial colleagues over the consultation period to arrange separate conversations on the Plan.
13. Subject to cabinet approval, I am planning a joint Ministerial event to launch the Action Plan in December. I will be inviting FVSV Ministers to join me at this event to present a united front to communities and the specialist sector.