



Ministry for Pacific Peoples

Te Manatū mō ngā Iwi o te Moana-nui-ā-Kiwa

Delivering with purpose

Annual Report
for the year ended 30 June 2026

Presented to the House of Representatives pursuant to section 44 of the Public Finance Act 1989.

The attached report of the Minister for Pacific Peoples in relation to Non-Departmental Appropriations in Vote Pacific Peoples for the year ended 30 June 2026 is presented to the House of Representatives under section 19B of the Public Finance Act 1989.

Pūrongo ā-tau | Rīpōti nō te Mata'iti | Ripote Vakayabaki | Te Riboti n katoaa
banen te Ririki | Hokotaki Lagataha He Tau | Rogrog ne Fāu ta | Lipoti
Fa'aletausaga | Lipoti Faka-Te-Tauhaga | Lipooti Fakata'ú | Lipoti o Tausaga |
Ripot blong wan yia | Ripot blong wanpla yia

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Published October 2026.

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He mea whakaputa i te Oketopa 2026.

ISSN 2815-7362 (print)

ISSN 2815-7370 (online)

Ministry for Pacific Peoples
Te Manatū mō ngā Iwi ō to Moana-nui-ā-Kiwa
PO Box | Pouaka Poutāpeta 833
Wellington | Te Whanganui a Tara
6140
Aotearoa | New Zealand

+64 4 473 4493

E-mail / Imera: contact@mpp.govt.nz

Website / Pae tukutuku: mpp.govt.nz



Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

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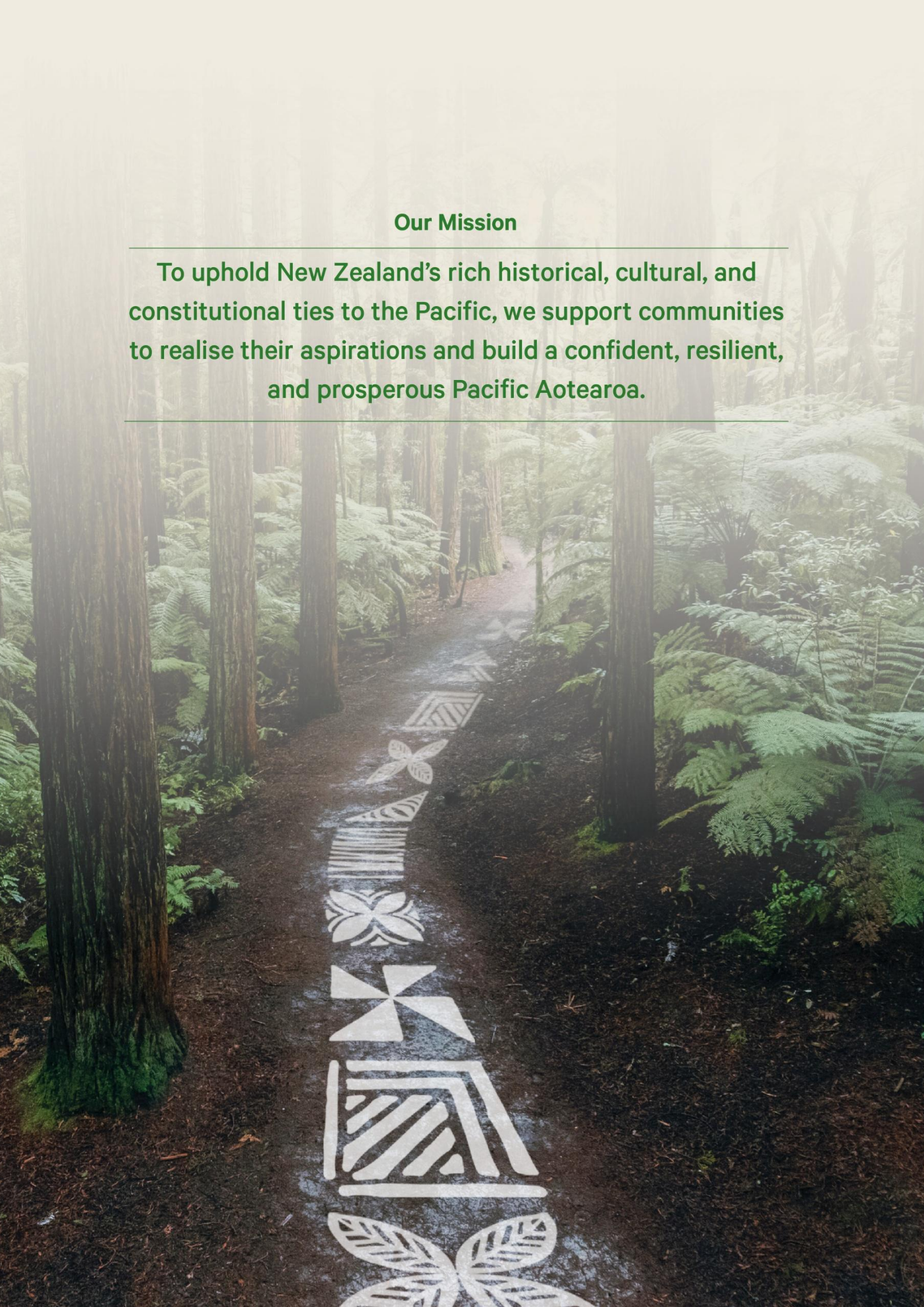
It explains how the Ministry focused its effort during the year, what was achieved, and what was learned. It also shows how Pacific community priorities, fiscal constraint, and wider system pressures shaped delivery over the year.

In this report, "the Ministry" refers to the Ministry for Pacific Peoples | Te Manatū mō ngā Iwi ō Te Moana-nui-ā-Kiwa.

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Our Mission

To uphold New Zealand's rich historical, cultural, and constitutional ties to the Pacific, we support communities to realise their aspirations and build a confident, resilient, and prosperous Pacific Aotearoa.



Welcome

Message from the Secretary

Pacific peoples are shaping the future of Aotearoa New Zealand.

Pacific communities are young, growing and increasingly diverse. They are rich in language, culture, faith, enterprise, service and leadership. Across generations, Pacific peoples are building businesses, pursuing education and careers, strengthening families, sustaining languages and contributing to communities throughout the country.

The Ministry's role is to help ensure government understands Pacific peoples well — community aspirations and strengths, the challenges faced and the opportunities ahead — and that this understanding leads to better decisions and better outcomes.

During 2025/26, we focused on where a small Ministry can add the greatest value. We brought Pacific community knowledge together with evidence, data and policy expertise. We strengthened the capability of agencies to work effectively with Pacific peoples, connected people and organisations across government and communities, and supported families, businesses and communities directly where we were well placed to make a difference.

Pacific peoples moved into employment, education and training. Pacific learners built pathways into Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and future-focused careers. Pacific businesses received support to strengthen and grow. More families progressed into home ownership. Thousands took part in Pacific language learning and community initiatives, helping Pacific languages to be heard, learned and passed on.

We also strengthened the Pacific voice within government. Better Pacific data and insights are informing decisions, and more public servants are building the capability to apply Pacific perspectives to their work. Just as importantly, trusted relationships with communities provide insight that cannot be gained from data alone.

Not every outcome is where we want it to be, and we need to continue to understand what is working, learn where it is not, and focus effort where it can make the greatest difference. Many of the decisions that most affect Pacific peoples are made across the wider government system. The Ministry's job is to stay close to communities, bring Pacific insight to those decisions and help the public service respond better.

But we must also keep the wider story in view. Pacific peoples should not be understood only through the disparities that remain. A young and growing Pacific population is a key part of the future workforce. Pacific businesses and creatives bring ideas and opportunity to the economy, languages and cultures enrich New Zealand, and Pacific communities bring knowledge and leadership, essential to developing solutions that work.

None of this happens on our own. I thank Pacific families, churches, organisations, providers, businesses, and leaders who share their knowledge and experience with us, alongside our public service partners and staff.

As we look ahead, I want us to remain ambitious for Pacific peoples, ensuring Pacific knowledge, evidence, and aspirations shape decisions and strengthen outcomes for Aotearoa New Zealand.

Kam rabwa,



A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Gerardine Clifford-Lidstone'.

Gerardine Clifford-Lidstone
Secretary for Pacific Peoples
Chief Executive, Ministry for Pacific Peoples

Key highlights 2025/26

A snapshot of results across the Ministry's four impact areas



Stronger government systems

Influence, capability and trust

71.9% +4.5%
stakeholder trust and confidence in the Ministry

1,031
public servants participated in Pacific policy and engagement capability training

92.3%
of agencies surveyed said capability services met their needs

9th / 20
in NZIER's independent Quality of Policy Advice review

Housing & financial capability

Security, readiness and healthier homes

27
homes built for Pacific families

1,313
financial capability programme completions

304
households achieved a recognised home ownership milestone

201
households reached through healthy homes interventions

Economic opportunities

Skills, employment and enterprise

1,571
participants progressed into employment, training or further education through Tupu Aotearoa

900 / 650
employment placements / training placements

411
Tolosa scholarships awarded in 2026

1,696
Pacific businesses supported and advised

Pacific languages & cultural strength

Visibility, learning and community-led action

12
Pacific languages celebrated through Pacific Language Weeks

30,000+
participants reached through 83 community-led events

7,458
participants reached through community-led language classes across eight languages

2,569
enrolments in Pacific language courses through the Centre for Pacific Languages

Selected highlights only. Detailed results, definitions and context are provided in the performance section of this Annual Report.



Our vision

A Pacific Aotearoa
where we all thrive

Our purpose

We weave the aspirations
of Pacific peoples into a
thriving Aotearoa

This is us

O tātou nei

Our behaviours

Stand proud
Be remarkable
Stronger together

We are guided by Pacific values

Soalaupule
~
Consensus

Ola fetufaaki
~
Reciprocity

Magafaoa
~
Family

Piri'anga
~
Collectivism

Tāpuakiga
~
Spirituality

Fakalilifu
~
Respect

Aro'a
~
Love



How we work and the environment we operate in

During 2025/26, the Ministry focused on where its relationships, policy expertise, data, insights and influence could add the greatest value. We worked alongside Pacific communities, government agencies and other partners to bring Pacific perspectives into decision-making, strengthen capability across the public service, and deliver targeted support where the Ministry was well placed to make a difference.

New Zealand is a Pacific nation

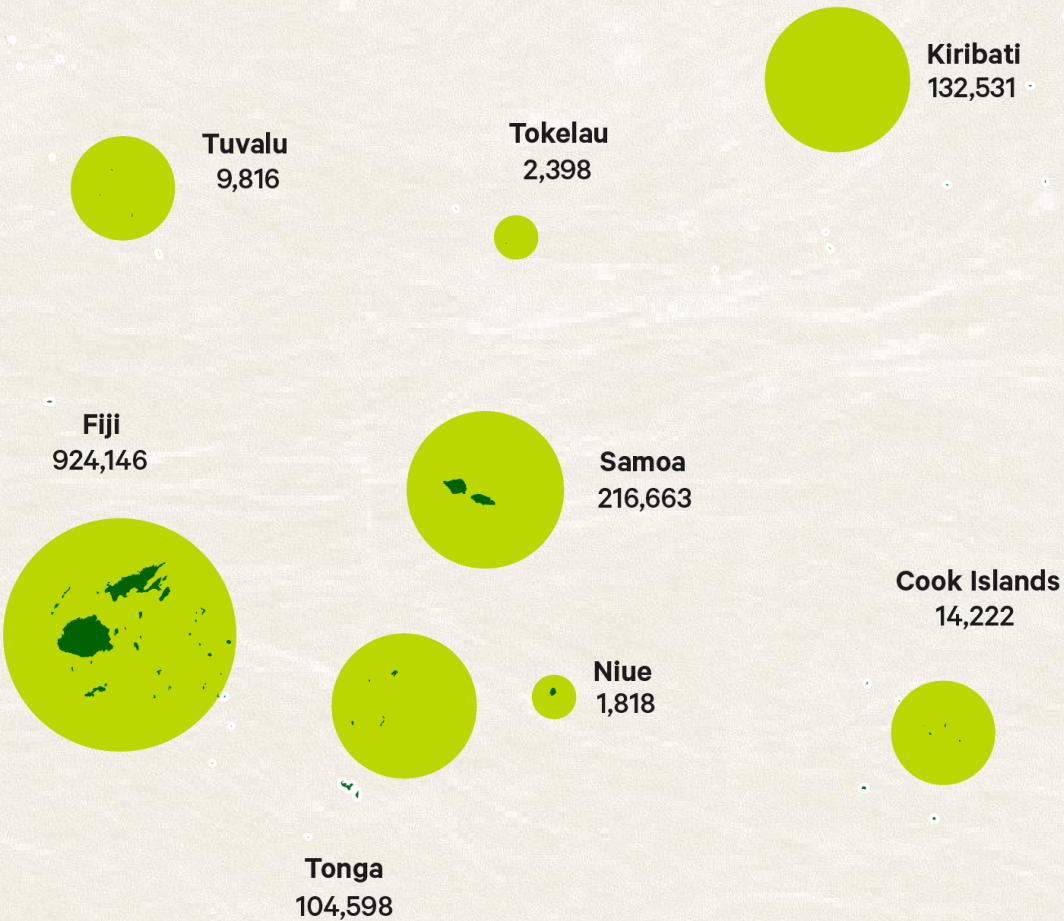
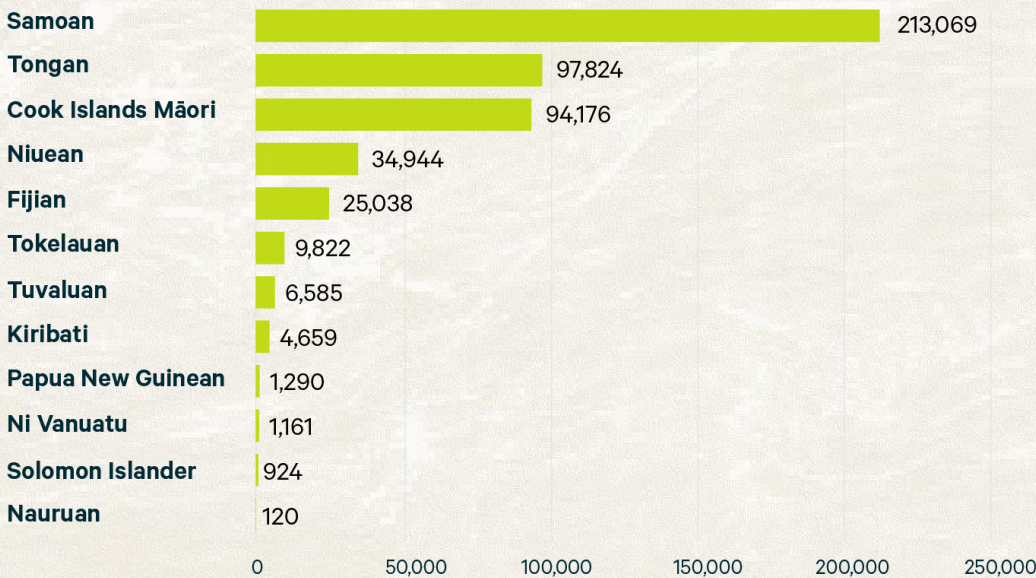
New Zealand is part of a diverse and interconnected Pacific region. For some Pacific nations, more of their people now live in New Zealand than in their homelands. Pacific communities are an integral part of New Zealand’s identity, society and economy, while maintaining strong familial, cultural, linguistic and economic connections across the Pacific. These connections enrich New Zealand and reinforce the importance of public services that reflect the aspirations, strengths and realities of Pacific communities and support their contribution to New Zealand’s social and economic prosperity.

Population of Pacific Island Countries

Bubble size proportional to population (log scale)



Pacific Peoples Living in New Zealand



Sources: 2023 United Nations Population Estimates and Stats NZ Census 2023 Usually Resident Population

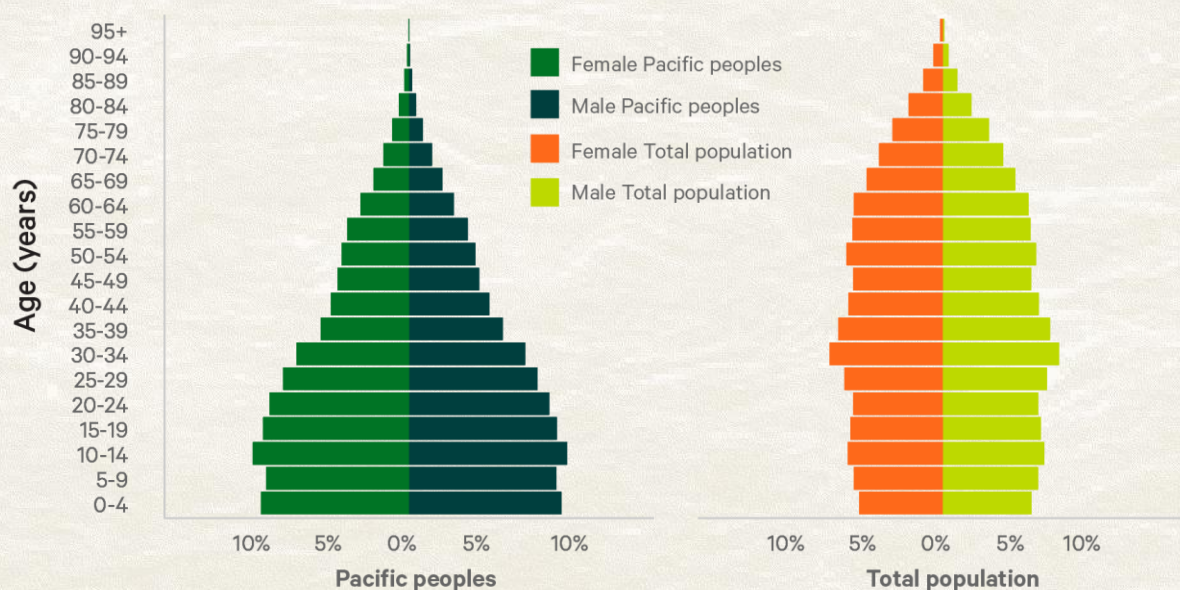
A changing Pacific population

Growth, diversity, and evolving needs

Pacific peoples are a growing, youthful and increasingly diverse part of Aotearoa New Zealand.

In 2026, the Pacific population in New Zealand was estimated at 497,600, representing 9.2% of the total population. This proportion is projected to increase to 10.0% by 2034 and 11.0% by 2044. By 2036, the Pacific population is expected to exceed 600,000 people.

Population pyramids for Pacific peoples and Total population



Source: Stats NZ 2023 Estimated Resident Population

This growth brings significant strengths and opportunities. A young Pacific population will play an increasingly important role in New Zealand's future workforce, communities and economy. Pacific identities are also becoming more diverse, including a growing number of people identifying with multiple ethnicities.

Pacific communities in Aotearoa remain closely connected to the wider Pacific through family, culture, language, migration and economic ties. New Zealand is home to some of the world's largest Samoan, Tongan, Cook Islands Māori, Niuean and Tokelauan communities, and more Cook Islands Māori, Niuean and Tokelauan people live in Aotearoa New Zealand than in their respective island nations.

The Ministry's 2025 Long-term Insights Briefing, *Shared futures: Deepening our understanding of Māori-Pacific identity in New Zealand*, highlights this increasing diversity. It found that 40% of Pacific peoples identify with multiple ethnicities and just over 20% identify as both Māori and Pacific.

These changes are reshaping how identity, culture and connection are experienced across generations. Pacific peoples share deep ancestral, cultural and spiritual ties with Māori, reflecting centuries of connection across Te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa and affirming Pacific peoples as kin to tangata whenua. Recognising both the diversity of Pacific communities and the significance of these relationships is important to ensuring policy and services remain relevant and responsive.

Culture, language and identity remain central to wellbeing and shape belonging, participation and engagement with education, employment and public services.

At the same time, outcomes remain uneven across areas including education, employment, housing and health. These disparities reflect differences in access, opportunity and system settings, rather than deficits within Pacific communities. They reinforce the need for government policy, services and investment to be informed by good evidence, Pacific perspectives and an understanding of the varied experiences and aspirations within Pacific communities.

Population growth and increasing diversity will continue to shape future demand and opportunity. Strengthening pathways into education, employment and enterprise, and ensuring systems are responsive to changing identities, languages and life experiences, will be important to supporting Pacific peoples and New Zealand's future prosperity.

The infographic on the next page summarises key characteristics of Pacific populations in Aotearoa New Zealand and provides further context for these trends.

Pacific peoples are a diverse, youthful population concentrated in urban areas.¹

9%

of New Zealand population identify as Pacific peoples

Diversity

Ethnicity

43%

of Pacific peoples identify with more than one ethnicity

21%

of Pacific peoples identify as both Māori and Pacific

There are many Pacific ethnic groups with diverse heritage, languages, identities, and cultures.² The largest groups include Samoans, Tongans, Cook Islands Māori, Niueans, Fijians, and Tokelauans.

Youthful population

Median age

24.9 years 38.1 years

Pacific peoples

total population

vs

31% of Pacific peoples are aged under 15 years and another 19% are youth aged 15-24 years. This means that half of the Pacific population are aged under 25 years.

New Zealand-born

Percentage of Pacific peoples born in NZ

67% 91%

total Pacific peoples

Pacific peoples under the age of 15 years

Most Pacific peoples in New Zealand (67%) are born in New Zealand, with 91% of Pacific peoples under the age of 15 years born in New Zealand.

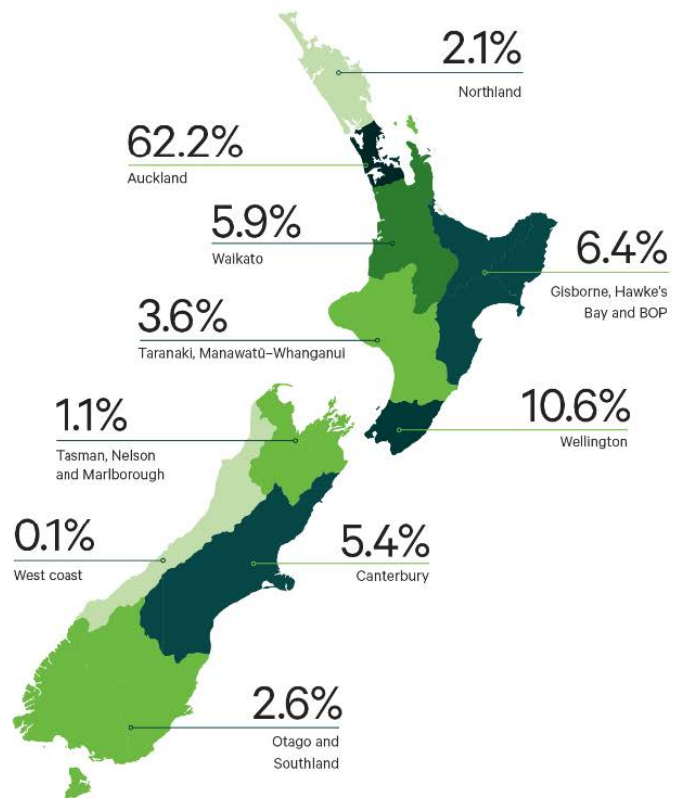
Urbanised geographic distribution

Pacific Population

82%

in urban areas

Geographic distribution



1. Most data is sourced from Census 2023 for the usually resident population. Geographic distribution is based on the Estimated Resident Population (subnational), as at 30 June 2023.

2. The Māori-Pacific population has been sourced from Census data in Stats NZ Integrated Data Infrastructure. These results are not official statistics. They have been created for research purposes from the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI) which is carefully managed by Stats NZ. For more information about the IDI please visit <https://www.stats.govt.nz/integrated-data/>. Access to the data used in this study was provided by Stats NZ under conditions designed to give effect to the security and confidentiality provisions of the Data and Statistics Act 2022. The results presented in this study are the work of the author, not Stats NZ or individual data suppliers.

Pacific communities at a glance

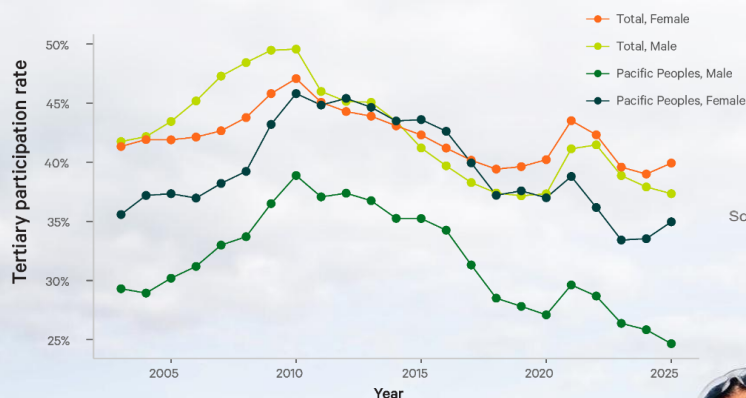
The indicators below provide a snapshot of social, economic, cultural and wellbeing trends for Pacific peoples in Aotearoa New Zealand. They show areas of progress alongside outcomes where disparities remain.

Education and employment

Pacific participation in the labour force has strengthened over time, and over the long term more Pacific peoples are achieving higher secondary qualifications. These gains provide a strong foundation for Pacific peoples to build skills, participate in employment and strengthen their economic contributions.

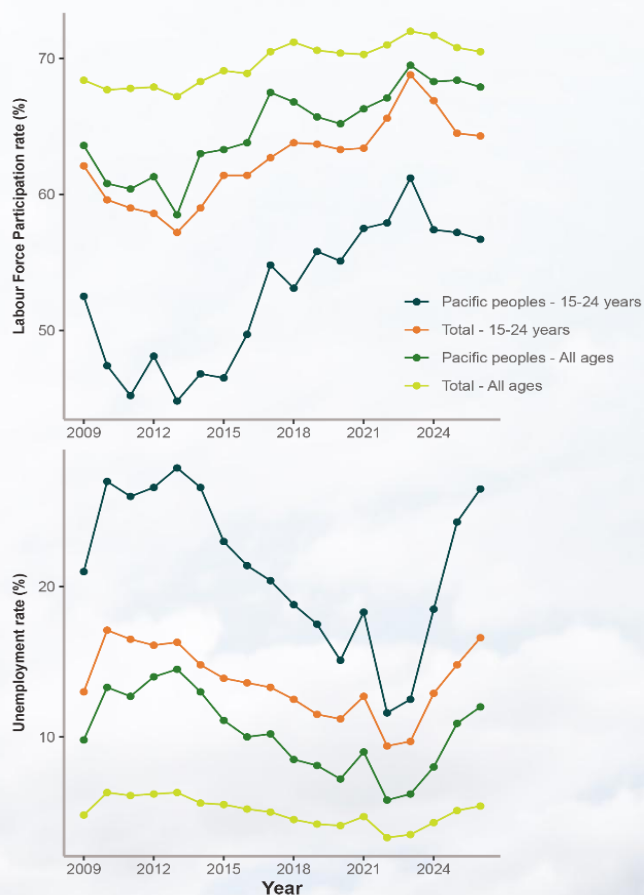
There are opportunities to build progress. Secondary qualification attainment and tertiary participation have declined in recent years, while unemployment remains higher than the national average. Together these trends show where progress can be accelerated and where government effort can make the greatest difference to skills, employment, earnings and long-term economic mobility.

Tertiary participation rate by ethnicity and gender, 20-24 years



Source: Education Counts

Labour force participation and unemployment rates, Pacific peoples and total population, youth and all ages



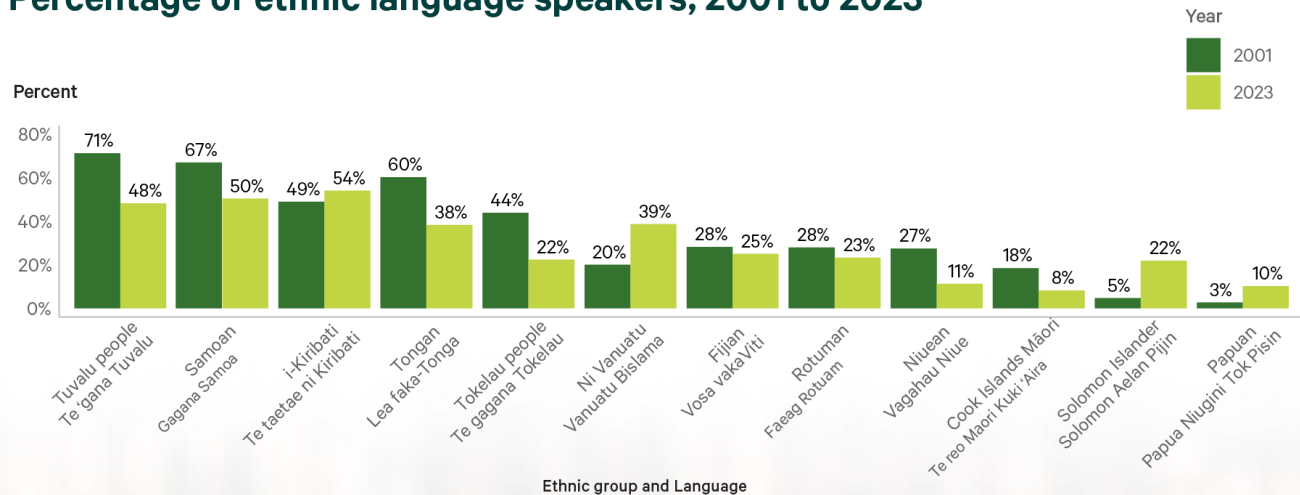
Source: Stats NZ, HLFS annual-Jun



Language and cultural vitality

Pacific languages are central to identity, belonging and wellbeing. Opportunities for Pacific language learning have expanded significantly, including through early learning and bilingual or immersion education. Language vitality varies across communities, and sustaining intergenerational language use remains an important long-term focus.

Percentage of ethnic language speakers, 2001 to 2023



Source: Census Usually Resident Population

These results are not official statistics. They have been created for research purposes from the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI) which is carefully managed by Stats NZ. For more information about the IDI please visit <https://www.stats.govt.nz/integrated-data/>. Access to the data used in this study was provided by Stats NZ under conditions designed to give effect to the security and confidentiality provisions of the Data and Statistics Act 2022. The results presented in this study are the work of the author, not Stats NZ or individual data suppliers.

Bilingual/immersion language learning opportunities have grown between 2004 and 2025

- 103 Pacific Early Childhood Education services (81 in 2004).
- 61 Pacific bilingual/immersion units across 43 schools (10 units across 9 schools in 2004).
- 3,829 school learners enrolled (445 in 2004).

Source: Education Counts. Note: Bilingual/immersion is classified as 51% or more Pacific language use in the Action Plan for Pacific Education Measurement Framework. Action Plan for Pacific Education measurement framework data | Education Counts. One less Pacific bilingual/immersion unit is counted (61) because it is a Hindi bilingual/immersion unit, not vosa vakaViti.

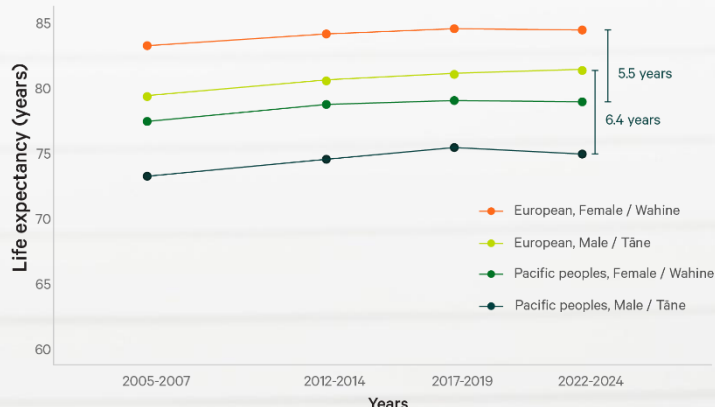


Wellbeing and living conditions

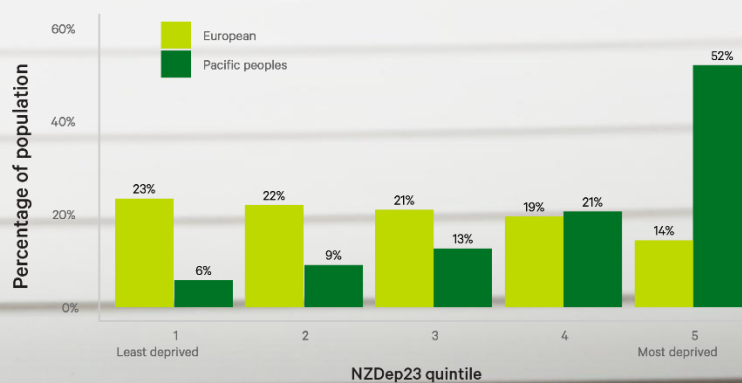
Pacific wellbeing is shaped by a wide range of social, economic, cultural and environmental factors. While there has been progress in some areas, disparities in housing, income and health outcomes remain and continue to affect opportunities for Pacific peoples and families.

- More than half of Pacific peoples live in communities experiencing high socioeconomic deprivation, reinforcing the importance of strengthening access to quality housing, secure employment, higher incomes and opportunities that support long term-wellbeing.
- Life expectancy has improved over the long-term by 1.7 years for Pacific men and 1.5 years for Pacific women between 2005-07 to 2022-24.
- Recent declines in life expectancy between 2017-19 and 2022-24 and a persistent gap compared with the European population highlight opportunities to build on long-term progress and strengthen Pacific health outcomes.

Life expectancy over time by ethnicity and sex



New Zealand Index of Socioeconomic Deprivation by Ethnicity



Source: Census 2023 Usually Resident Population



The Ministry's role

Influence, alignment, and stewardship

The Ministry is the Crown's principal advisor on policies and interventions affecting Pacific peoples. Pacific communities hold knowledge, experience and aspirations that are essential to good government decision-making. The Ministry connects these perspectives with government, helping ensure they inform and shape decisions that impact Pacific peoples. The Ministry's role extends beyond the programmes and services it delivers directly.

The Ministry brings Pacific community knowledge together with data, evidence and policy expertise to support better government decision-making. It works across agencies to strengthen Pacific policy and engagement capability, improve coordination, and help ensure Pacific perspectives are reflected in policy, investment and service design.

Trusted relationships with Pacific communities are central to this role. They provide insight into the experiences, aspirations and priorities of Pacific peoples that cannot be understood through data alone.

As a small population agency, the Ministry focuses its effort where its relationships, expertise and influence can add the greatest value and supports government to make better-informed decisions and respond more effectively to Pacific peoples.

The Ministry's [Strategic Intentions 2025–2029](#) provide the framework for this work and the long-term outcomes the Ministry contributes to. During 2025/26, this direction was supported by the [Delivering for Pacific Communities Strategy](#) and insights from the [Long-term Insights Briefing](#).

Our operating environment

Conditions, pressures, change

During 2025/26, the Ministry operated in a dynamic environment shaped by demographic change, evolving community aspirations, public service transformation, fiscal constraints and increasing focus on coordinated, effective government services. This required careful prioritisation and a continued focus on where the Ministry could add the greatest value.

System-level changes across the public service continued to promote more connected and efficient ways of working, including greater use of digital tools, improved data sharing, and more integrated service delivery. As part of this shift, a cross-agency initiative was supported to explore how smaller agencies can work together more effectively in areas such as digital capability, data, and shared processes. This aligns with broader public service transformation and reflects a move towards more coordinated approaches to investment and delivery.

Fiscal pressures across the public sector continued to require careful prioritisation and a focus on value for money. Budget 2025 required the Ministry to deliver further savings and reprioritise existing baselines, including through the conclusion of the Tauola Fund and changes to Tupu Aotearoa.

Government and ministerial priorities continued to influence the Ministry's focus and areas of effort. This included supporting improved education, employment, housing, and economic outcomes; sustaining Pacific languages and cultural identity; contributing to safer communities and law and order objectives; and strengthening government responsiveness to Pacific peoples. These priorities are reflected throughout the performance story presented in the 'Our performance' section of this report.

Environmental and regional pressures also shaped the context in which Pacific communities and government agencies operated. Pacific communities in Aotearoa New Zealand maintain strong family, cultural and economic connections across the Pacific region, meaning climate events, natural disasters and other disruptions can have direct effects on families and communities in New Zealand. This reinforced the importance of coordinated and culturally responsive approaches to preparedness, response and recovery.

Our performance

This section sets out the Ministry's performance across four impact areas drawn from the Strategic Intentions 2025–2029. Together, they show where the Ministry focused its effort in 2025/26, what was achieved, and how this contributed to better outcomes for Pacific peoples.

The four impact areas are:

- stronger government systems delivering for Pacific peoples
- increased economic opportunities for Pacific peoples through business and skills
- sustained Pacific languages and cultural strength
- improved housing stability and financial resilience for Pacific families.

Stronger government systems

System leadership to improve responsiveness and outcomes for Pacific peoples

Many of the decisions that shape outcomes for Pacific peoples are made across the wider government system. The Ministry therefore has an important role in helping agencies understand Pacific perspectives, use Pacific evidence and insights, engage effectively with communities, and coordinate action where issues cross agency boundaries.

During 2025/26, the Ministry focused on improving the quality of government decision-making, strengthening coordination across agencies, maintaining trusted relationships with Pacific communities, and providing timely, high-quality advice. This included strengthening Pacific data and evidence, building policy and engagement capability across government, and supporting more coordinated responses to issues affecting Pacific peoples.

How the Ministry exercised stewardship and influence

The Ministry operates within a broad system of government agencies, communities, providers, and partners. Its stewardship role is to strengthen how that system responds to Pacific peoples by bringing together community insight, evidence, policy advice, capability-building, and coordination.

Our stakeholders at a glance



Pacific communities provide knowledge, experience, and leadership that help shape government decisions. Through engagement, data and insights, policy advice, and strategic partnerships, the Ministry helps ensure decisions, services, and investments better reflect the needs and aspirations of Pacific peoples.

The interim 2026 Performance Improvement Review report¹ recognised the Ministry's contribution as a catalyst and system leader, noting that its value lies less in the scale of what it delivers directly and more in what it enables others across government to do well.

Ensuring Pacific perspectives inform decision-making

Policy advice reflected lived experience through sustained and structured engagement with Pacific communities, guided by the Ministry's *Tausi le vā Partnerships Strategy*. The strategy provides a framework for building and maintaining trusted relationships with Pacific communities, ensuring Pacific voices are reflected in government decision-making. This included consultation on the Delivering for Pacific Communities Strategy and engagement supporting the Long-term Insights Briefing, helping identify Pacific priorities, improve understanding of the long-term factors influencing outcomes for Pacific peoples, and highlight areas where system performance could be strengthened.

Tausi le vā Partnerships Strategy



¹ The interim *Performance Improvement Review report (PIR)* was commissioned by the Ministry and conducted by Te Kawa Mataaho Public Service Commission in 2026, and is an independent assessment of organisational performance, capability, and future readiness. The review provided a mid-point assessment of progress against findings and recommendations of the 2024 review.

Through engagement, strategic partnerships, and leadership relationships, insights were gathered on barriers to access, issues of trust, service gaps, and emerging community priorities. This strengthened the evidence available to decision-makers and informed policy development and government responses.

Advice and engagement activities reflected the diversity of Pacific communities, including disabled people, youth, multilingual communities, and people with intersecting identities. Consideration of accessibility, participation, and equity improved understanding of how policies and services affect different communities and supported more informed decision-making across government.

Engagement framework

Approach

Adopt an intersectional lens

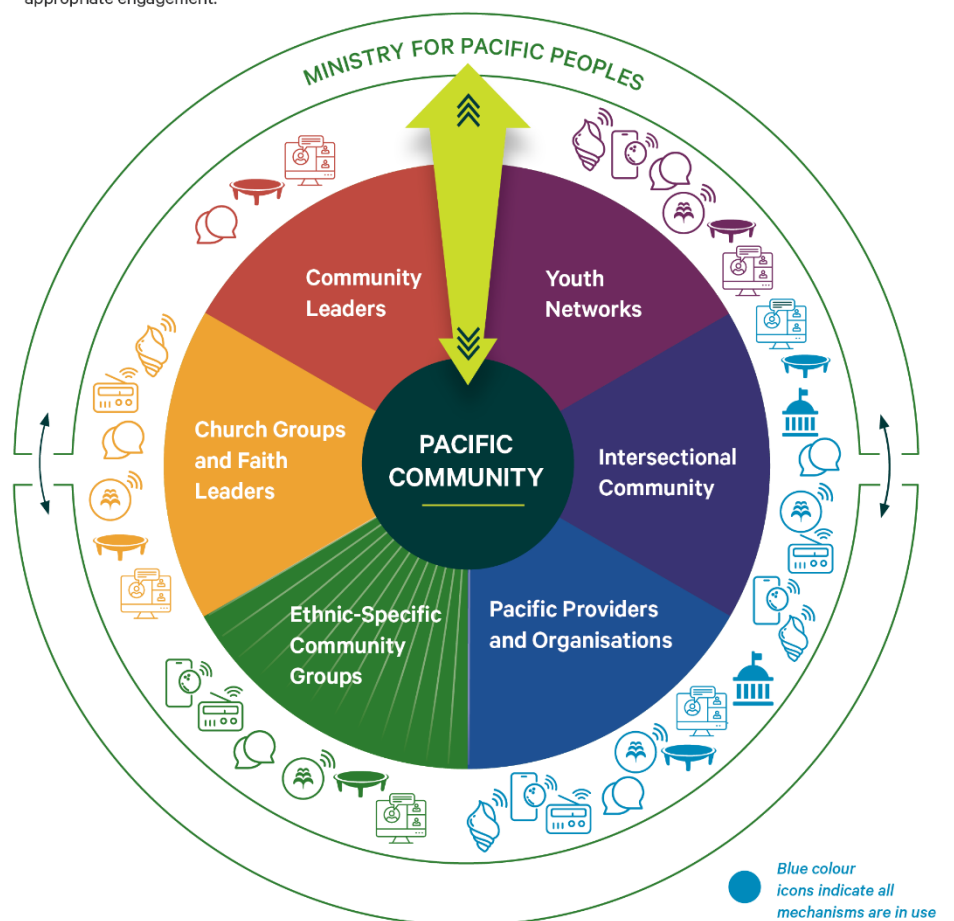
Our Pacific communities are incredibly diverse in their identities, life stories, environments and contexts. Maintaining an intersectional lens that holds these converging factors provides a strong foundation for meaningful, responsive, targeted, and appropriate engagement.

Scoping the project effectively

The scoping aspects of the approach is important as this determines who to engage with, ensuring steps of the engagement approach are in place to guide the planning and implementation of the engagement.

Engage early and often

Early engagement is key for effectively managing and clarifying issues to ensure that the Pacific community are informed to participate. It is important that engagement is not one-off, as it can occur at various stages until issues are resolved.



Key — Mechanisms of engagement



Evidence of impact

The Ministry's influence on system performance is reflected through stakeholder confidence measures, agency feedback, uptake of Pacific-informed capability frameworks, policy quality assessments, and case studies demonstrating how engagement, evidence, and coordination contribute to decision-making and outcomes.

Together, these sources indicate improving government responsiveness to Pacific peoples, particularly where agencies are strengthening capability, working more collaboratively, and making greater use of Pacific perspectives, data, and evidence. The following sections present the evidence supporting this assessment.

Strategic indicators – system-level context

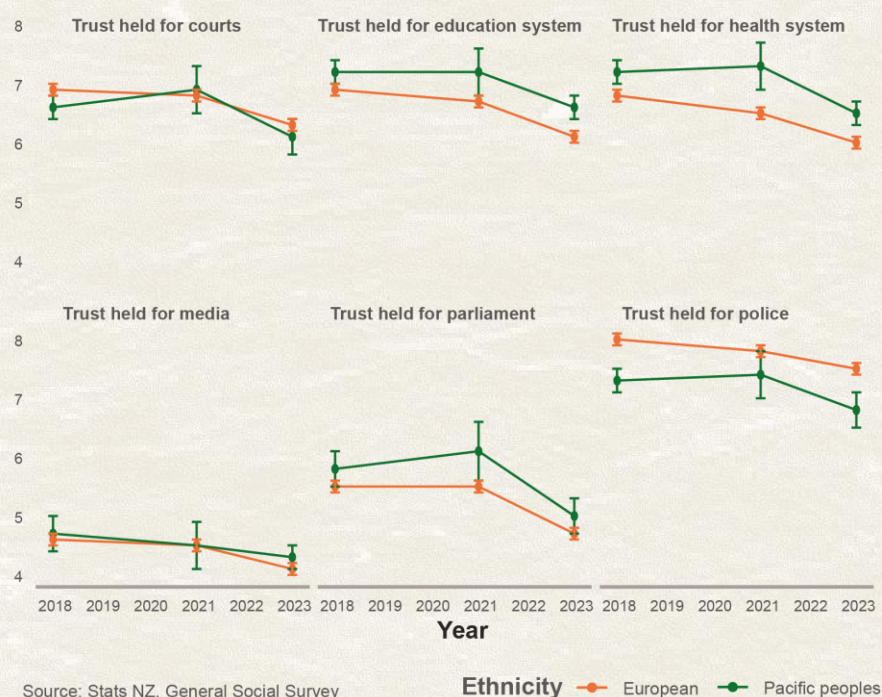
Strategic indicators provide context on how outcomes and experiences for Pacific peoples are changing across the wider system. While these changes cannot be attributed solely to the Ministry, they help illustrate the environment within which the Ministry contributes to improved system performance and outcomes for Pacific peoples.

Selected indicators provide insight into how effectively systems are working for Pacific peoples, including access to, experiences of, and trust in public services:

- Stats NZ General Social Survey provides insight into institutional trust. Trust in public services has been reducing among the New Zealand total population and for Pacific peoples.
- In 2023, Pacific peoples' trust in the education system and the health system was higher than European, and Pacific peoples' trust in police was lower than European.
- Between 2018 and 2023, there were statistically significant declines in Pacific peoples' trust in the education system, the health system, and parliament.

Mean rating of institutional trust by ethnicity

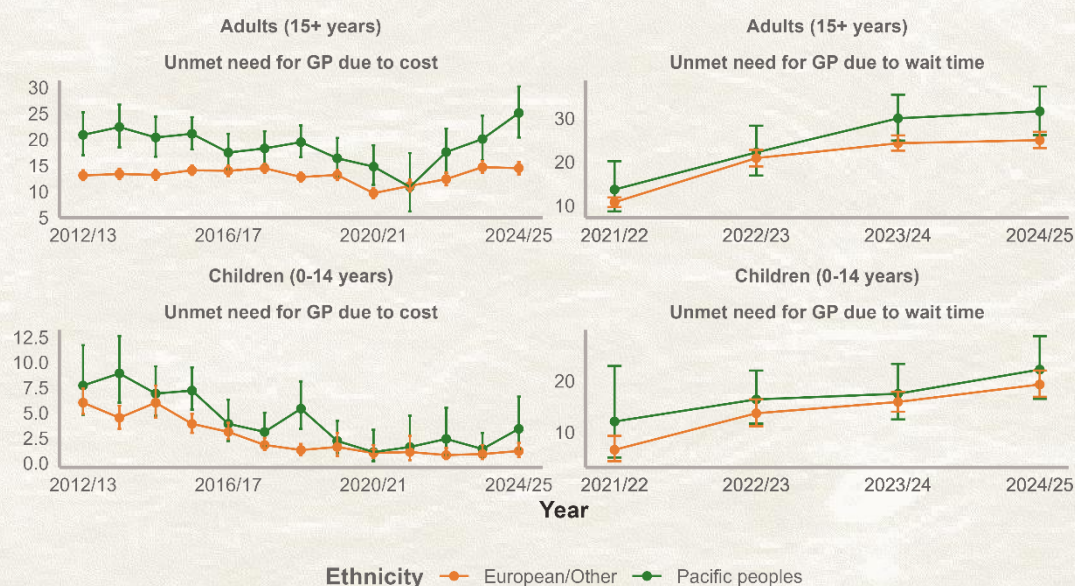
Mean value, scale of 1 (low trust) to 10 (high trust)



Despite relatively higher trust in the health system, Pacific peoples experience greater barriers to accessing healthcare. In 2024/25, Pacific adults were 1.52 times more likely to have unmet need for a GP due to cost and were 1.22 times more likely to have unmet need for a GP due to long wait times in the past 12 months compared with non-Pacific. Between 2021/22 and 2024/25, a greater percentage of Pacific adults experienced unmet need for a GP due to cost and due to wait times. However, over the 10 years between 2014/15 and 2024/25, a lower percentage of Pacific children had unmet need for a GP due to cost.

Barriers to accessing primary health care

Percentage of population (%)



Source: Ministry of Health, New Zealand Health Survey
Data is recorded as prevalence over the last 12 months

These indicators present a mixed picture. Pacific peoples continue to report relatively higher levels of trust in some public institutions, providing a strong foundation for engagement between communities and government. However, barriers to accessing services persist. Together, these indicators highlight the importance of building on existing levels of trust while continuing to improve access to services. This reinforces the need for coordinated approaches, responsive service design, and ongoing attention to the factors that affect Pacific peoples' ability to access support.

Strengthening system coordination and community resilience

Improving coordination across the system

Agencies worked together more effectively to respond to issues affecting Pacific communities. Stronger coordination across central government, local government, community providers, and Pacific stakeholders supported more connected responses to issues affecting Pacific peoples.

This included:

- brokering relationships
- aligning regional networks
- supporting collective approaches to issues such as workforce participation and service access
- improving coordination during periods of disruption, emergency response, and recovery.

Strengthening strategic leadership and collaboration

Establishment of the Cross-Agency Pacific Leaders Group (CAPLG) created a strategic governance and coordination forum bringing together senior leaders across agencies. The group supports improved alignment of efforts, strengthens collaboration, and enables more coordinated and effective responses to advance outcomes for Pacific communities across Aotearoa New Zealand.

Supporting emergency preparedness and response

Community resilience and system responsiveness were strengthened through participation in emergency preparedness, response, and recovery activities. Regional emergency management coordination arrangements were supported during severe weather events across Otago, Nelson, Wellington, Manawatū-Whanganui, Waikato, Bay of Plenty, and Auckland. This included sharing community insights, supporting communication through trusted Pacific networks, and helping agencies understand the impacts of disruptions on Pacific communities.

The Ministry also contributed to all-of-government planning and coordination during the national fuel supply disruption. Insights gathered from communities highlighted emerging pressures on household finances, transport, access to health services, employment, and education. This information helped ensure Pacific perspectives were reflected in preparedness and response planning.

Readiness was reinforced through participation in community emergency management initiatives and emergency management training. Officials completed Coordinated Incident Management System (CIMS) training and supported Emergency Operations Centres in Porirua and Hutt City during severe weather events. Participation in regional emergency management forums and recovery initiatives also contributed to more coordinated and culturally responsive approaches to community recovery and resilience.

Building community capability and resilience

Investment in the Pacific Wardens programme and collaboration with Fire and Emergency New Zealand helped build community capability. These efforts enhanced leadership, preparedness, coordination, and response capability while reinforcing trusted networks that support Pacific communities during emergencies and other disruptive events.

Stewardship in action

The Ministry's stewardship role is most visible where its influence extends beyond individual programmes and contributes to broader system change. The following case studies demonstrate how coordination, trusted relationships, and Pacific-informed approaches helped strengthen government responsiveness and improve outcomes for Pacific peoples.

Dawn Raids response – coordinated, culturally grounded system response

The Ministry leads the Crown’s response to the Dawn Raids, coordinating a cross-agency programme to acknowledge past harms and support healing for Pacific communities.

What was done

- coordinated multiple agencies to deliver a unified response and engaged with affected individuals, families, and community leaders
- progressed historical publications and initiatives such as Vaka of Stories to capture lived experiences
- strengthened governance arrangements to ensure cultural integrity.

What changed

- improved coordination across agencies on a sensitive, system-wide issue
- strengthened confidence that community perspectives are reflected in programme design and delivery
- ensured historical harms inform current and future decision-making.



Living our value: Fakalilifu | Respect

This work reflects *Fakalilifu | Respect* by acknowledging past harms and ensuring responses are culturally grounded and informed by community voices.

Pacific Wardens – community-led approaches improving system effectiveness

The Pacific Wardens programme demonstrates how Pacific-led approaches strengthen system performance through trust, early intervention, and community connection.

What was done

- supported programme expansion through investment, governance, and capability development
- established a workforce of 151 active Pacific Wardens
- strengthened training, including partnerships with New Zealand Police
- improved planning and coordination to support scalable delivery.

What changed

- earlier intervention and de-escalation in community settings
- improved access and connection between communities and services
- increased trust and communication between agencies and Pacific communities
- real-time community insight informing system advice and decision-making.

Living our value: Piri'anga | Collectivism

The programme reflects *Piri'anga | Collectivism* through community-led approaches that prioritise trust, and practical support, strengthening connections between communities and services.

Stakeholder trust and confidence in the Ministry

Stakeholder perceptions provide an important measure of the Ministry's effectiveness as a steward and advisor within the wider system.

Strong levels of trust and confidence indicate that stakeholders value the Ministry's contribution to improving government responsiveness to Pacific peoples and recognise the importance of its role in connecting community insight with government decision-making.

Growing trust and confidence

Stakeholder confidence in the Ministry continued to strengthen during 2025/26. Trust and confidence increased to 71.9% (67.4% in 2024/25), while perceptions that the Ministry delivers value through its work and services increased to 81.2% (74.6% in 2024/25). Both measures exceeded the 65% target.

Stakeholder feedback suggests these results were underpinned by the Ministry's visibility in communities, its understanding of Pacific issues, and the value stakeholders place on its contribution to government decision-making and community engagement.

Particular strengths included the Ministry's understanding of Pacific communities, its ability to represent Pacific interests, and the positive contribution of its programmes and services. These findings demonstrate confidence in the Ministry's ability to bring Pacific perspectives into government discussions and decisions and support more informed responses to issues affecting Pacific communities.

Building trust through engagement

Stakeholders consistently identified visible engagement, regional presence, and regular communication as important contributors to trust and confidence.

Feedback highlighted the importance of opportunities to contribute to policy and programme development, understand how community views have influenced decisions, and maintain ongoing relationships with the Ministry.

These findings reinforce the importance of engagement in supporting stakeholder confidence and strengthening connections between Pacific communities and government.

Stakeholders also recognised the value of the Ministry's ongoing engagement efforts. As one respondent noted:

‘Keep doing what you are doing. The past three years has seen exceptional engagement.’

Trust and confidence survey participant

Insight: Trust enables influence

The survey findings indicate that influence is built through trusted relationships. Stakeholders consistently linked confidence in the Ministry to its visibility within communities, the quality of its relationships, and its ability to connect Pacific voices with government decision-makers.

The strategic value of these relationships was reinforced through the interim 2026 Performance Improvement Review, which described the Ministry as a trusted steward of Pacific communities' insights and advice.

Trust is both an outcome and an enabler of the Ministry's work. By maintaining trusted relationships with Pacific communities, the Ministry is better positioned to bring Pacific perspectives into government decision-making, support engagement between communities and agencies, and ensure community insights are reflected in policy and service design.

In this way, trust contributes not only to stronger relationships but also enables the Ministry to influence decisions affecting Pacific peoples.

Leadership of Pacific data, evidence, and insights

Leadership in Pacific data, evidence, and insights supported more evidence-informed decision-making across government on issues affecting Pacific peoples. The interim 2026 Performance Improvement Review identified the strategic value of the Ministry's Data and Insights function and highlighted growing organisational capability in the use of data, evidence, and Pacific insights to inform decision-making, monitor performance, and support policy development.

Evidence indicates agencies are increasingly using Pacific data, insights, and capability services to inform decision-making. This has strengthened understanding of Pacific perspectives across government and supported more informed policy development, service design, and engagement practices.

During the year, the Ministry worked with agencies including Stats NZ, Health New Zealand, and the Ministry of Health to strengthen the visibility, quality, interpretation, and use of Pacific data. This included contributing to Stats NZ work on the next census and the review of the ethnicity standard and classification to improve the quality and consistency of data about Pacific peoples. The Ministry also published census and education data snapshots presenting 20 years of Pacific language data from the census and Ministry of Education, supporting greater understanding of language use and participation over time. These activities contributed to stronger evidence and insights, helping inform policy, investment, and service delivery decisions affecting Pacific peoples.

The review also identified early evidence that the Ministry's data-as-strategy approach is beginning to influence practice. Both internal and external stakeholders cited products such as the Pacific Health Chart Book on health outcomes and the Ministry's census and education data snapshots on Pacific languages as examples of how Pacific data and insights are being used to inform understanding of issues affecting Pacific peoples.

Pacific Health Chart Book

The Ministry partnered with the Ministry of Health to support the publication of *Tupu Ola Moui: Pacific Health Chart Book 2025*. The final set was published on 17 July 2025. The five-volume series provides updated evidence on Pacific population trends, the Pacific health workforce, healthier environments, health system experiences, and health outcomes. The series supports a stronger evidence base for monitoring progress and informing decisions that affect Pacific health and wellbeing.

For full access to the reports and detailed findings, visit the Ministry of Health's publication page: [Tupu Ola Moui: Pacific Health Chart Book 2025](#)

Pacific data quality and visibility were further strengthened through:

- strengthening Pacific data insights and interpretation in external reports and publications
- providing data and insights to support policy advice
- working with agencies and external stakeholders to share Pacific data and insights
- collaborating on Pacific health analysis guidelines for the health sector
- generating insights on Pacific language use
- supporting analysis on the Māori Pacific population for the Long-term Insights Briefing
- generating regional insights about Pacific peoples.

Capability and system enablement

Agencies reported stronger capability to apply Pacific perspectives in policy development, engagement, and service delivery. This contributed to more culturally responsive decision-making and improved understanding of Pacific communities across government.

Stronger systems require not only good information and coordination, but also capability within agencies to understand and apply Pacific perspectives in their work. System capability was strengthened through initiatives that improved how agencies use data, evidence, policy frameworks, and engagement approaches to make more informed decisions and better respond to the aspirations, priorities, and needs of Pacific communities. Improved access to data and insights enabled agencies to better understand Pacific outcomes, emerging trends, and areas of need, supporting more targeted policy and investment decisions.

Capability was further strengthened through:

- partnerships supporting workforce and service delivery
- tools and programmes that improved policy and engagement practice
- direct support provided to agencies.

A key focus of this work was strengthening the capability of agencies to consider Pacific perspectives in policy development and engagement activities. Through the delivery of the Kapasa Pacific policy capability framework and the Yavu Pacific engagement capability framework, agencies were supported to apply Pacific perspectives more effectively in decision-making, policy design, stakeholder engagement, and service delivery.

Agencies reported improved capability to incorporate Pacific perspectives into policy development, engagement, and service delivery. During 2025/26, 1,031 participants took part in Kapasa and Yavu workshops

designed to strengthen Pacific-informed practice, while 92.3% of surveyed agencies reported that capability services met their needs, exceeding the target of 75%. These results indicate growing capability across government to apply Pacific perspectives in policy, engagement, and service design.

Capability services delivered strong results

49 workshops delivered

1,031 participants reached

92.3% of agencies reported capability services met their needs

Strengthening Pacific-informed policy capability through Kapasa

Kapasa supports agencies to incorporate Pacific perspectives into policy development and analysis.

Feedback from agencies indicates that Kapasa strengthened policy capability and supported the integration of Pacific perspectives into policy development and analysis. Respondents reported improved understanding of Pacific communities and cultures, increased workforce capability, and greater confidence in applying Pacific perspectives when analysing, developing, and reviewing policy. Agencies also indicated that the framework was helping embed Pacific perspectives more consistently in policy processes and decision-making.

These findings suggest Kapasa is contributing to more informed and culturally responsive policy development by helping agencies better understand the needs, experiences, and aspirations of Pacific communities.

Strengthening Pacific engagement capability through Yavu

Yavu supports agencies to engage more effectively with Pacific communities through culturally informed approaches and practices.

Among respondents, **91.7%** reported that Yavu strengthened their agency's capability to engage effectively with Pacific communities. Agencies described improved understanding of Pacific cultures, values, and diversity; increased confidence when engaging with Pacific peoples; and greater use of culturally informed approaches in engagement planning and stakeholder relationships.

One agency described how Yavu helped staff better understand the diversity of Pacific communities and strengthened their confidence and capability to engage appropriately:

‘Through this learning, staff developed a deeper understanding of the diversity within Pacific communities and recognised that there is no single "Pacific" perspective. The training reinforced the importance of approaching each person and family with cultural humility, respect, and an awareness of the values that may influence their decisions and interactions. By strengthening their cultural knowledge and understanding, staff are better equipped to engage with Pacific peoples.’

Agency survey respondent

A participating agency also highlighted the practical application of Yavu resources and frameworks in their day-to-day work:

‘When planning for Pacific engagements we may refer to the Yavu framework for better understanding of the environment we will be working in. Language cards are useful to learn a phrase before engaging.’

Agency survey respondent

Several agencies reported that Yavu had influenced engagement practices and workplace culture. Examples included increased use of Pacific languages and cultural protocols, greater staff confidence in engaging with Pacific communities, and stronger consideration of Pacific perspectives in engagement activities.

These findings suggest that Yavu is helping participating agencies build culturally informed engagement capability and apply Pacific perspectives more consistently in their engagement planning and practices.

Impact story: Strengthening Pacific cultural capability at Porirua City Council

Porirua City Council partnered with the Ministry to deliver the Yavu cultural capability programme as part of its commitment to strengthening Pacific cultural capability through *Ola Kamataga*, the Council's Pacific Strategy.

Between March and June 2026, 125 staff members participated in Yavu workshops designed to build understanding of Pacific values, perspectives, and culturally responsive engagement practices. Demand for the programme was strong, with participation from across the organisation, including elected members.

Feedback from the Council indicates the programme increased staff confidence and capability when engaging with Pacific communities and strengthened the incorporation of Pacific perspectives into organisational practice. Observed outcomes included greater use of Pacific greetings, increased consideration of Pacific perspectives in departmental planning and implementation activities, stronger support for Pacific Language Weeks, and discussions about incorporating Yavu into future staff induction and development programmes.

The Council's Pacific Senior Advisor reported that participants became advocates for the programme within their teams and business units.

‘Yavu is relevant to everyone at Council. It gives you a different way of looking at Porirua's history and ideas on how to connect better with our Pacific communities and in our workplaces and spaces.’

Porirua City Council staff member

This example demonstrates how Yavu supports agencies to strengthen Pacific cultural capability, embed Pacific perspectives into organisational practice, and build more meaningful engagement with Pacific communities.

The value of Yavu extends beyond individual participant capability. As agencies strengthen their ability to engage effectively with Pacific communities and apply Pacific perspectives in their work, the benefits are reflected in organisational practice, service delivery, and decision-making. This helps agencies respond more effectively to Pacific aspirations and contribute to improved outcomes for Pacific peoples.

Insight: Embedding Pacific perspectives across government

Kapasa and Yavu are helping embed Pacific perspectives more consistently across government decision-making, organisational practice, and service delivery. While the programmes focus on strengthening policy and engagement capability respectively, their influence extends beyond individual participants. Evidence from participating agencies indicates that learning is being applied to policy development, planning, stakeholder engagement, workforce practices, and service delivery.

As agencies strengthen their capability to understand and respond to the needs and aspirations of Pacific peoples, the benefits extend beyond individual projects and initiatives. This capability-building work supports a more culturally responsive public sector, strengthens relationships with Pacific communities, and creates greater opportunities for government policies, services, and investments to reflect Pacific perspectives and priorities.

Ministerial servicing and policy advice

Ministers received timely, high-quality, and evidence-based advice that supported informed decision-making on issues affecting Pacific peoples. Advice consistently identified practical impacts, risks, implementation considerations, and stakeholder perspectives, helping ensure decisions were informed by how policies and initiatives would operate in practice.

Performance in ministerial support servicing remained strong. Against a target of 95–100%, timeliness was 100% for Ministerial Official Information Act (OIA) requests, briefings, and parliamentary select committee questions, and 99.3% for written parliamentary questions. Ministerial satisfaction also remained high, with scores of 5 out of 5 for Ministerial OIA requests and 4 out of 5 for briefings, written parliamentary questions, and parliamentary select committee questions, exceeding the target of at least 3 out of 5.

Independent assessment by the New Zealand Institute of Economic Research (NZIER) found that policy advice remained strong, achieving an average quality score of 3.5 out of 5 and meeting the Ministry's performance target. All papers reviewed met or exceeded the Policy Quality Framework standard, and 30% exceeded the standard by achieving a score of 4 or above (an increase of 10% on the previous year).

The review highlighted a number of strengths. Advice was consistently well written, clearly structured, and easy to follow. Strong subject matter expertise, effective use of evidence, and practical support for Ministers were recurring features across the sample. The review also noted consistent consideration and clear presentation of risks and mitigations, increasing use of robust options analysis, and advice that effectively supported implementation, stakeholder engagement, and decision-making.

The Ministry's position relative to other agencies has improved in 2026 from the previous year, sitting 9th out of 20 agencies compared to 10th in 2025, and now in the top half of agency scores assessed by NZIER.

The interim 2026 Performance Improvement Review found that the Ministry had established the foundations for a substantive lift in the strategic quality of advice and was on a clear improvement trajectory. It highlighted strengthened policy disciplines, including the use of policy quality processes, adoption of the DPMC Policy Framework, and investment in policy capability development. It also noted a growing emphasis on evidence-informed advice and increasing capability to provide strategic advice on complex issues affecting Pacific peoples.

Ministerial satisfaction with policy advice was 3.7 out of 5 in 2025/26, exceeding the target of at least 3 out of 5. Overall, the survey indicates confidence in officials and policy advice, with strong results for trust and confidence, responsiveness, and the clarity of policy positions.

A revised Ministerial Policy Satisfaction Survey was used this year following updated guidance from the Policy Project at DPMC. The new survey is intended to provide greater consistency across agencies and uses a more granular scoring scale. This has also contributed to a lower score compared to previous years.

What we learned and how this informed our approach

Evidence from 2025/26 highlights three factors that contribute most to stronger government responsiveness to Pacific peoples:

- effective use of Pacific data, insights, and evidence
- stronger coordination and alignment across agencies
- capability to apply Pacific perspectives in policy, engagement, and service design.

The year reinforced the importance of focusing effort where the Ministry has the greatest influence on system performance. Under fiscal constraint, this required continued prioritisation and a clear focus on activities that strengthen decision-making, improve coordination, and support agencies to better understand and respond to Pacific communities.

Stakeholder feedback also highlighted the importance of maintaining visibility across regional, smaller, and emerging Pacific communities, and clearly demonstrating how community perspectives influence decisions and actions.

Insight: Strengthening how government responds to Pacific peoples

The Ministry's greatest contribution is not only through the programmes and services it delivers directly, but through helping government systems become more responsive to Pacific peoples.

By combining Pacific community insight, evidence, coordination, capability-building, and policy influence, the Ministry helps improve the quality of decisions, services, and investments that affect Pacific communities.

Consistent with the findings of the interim 2026 Performance Improvement Review, the Ministry's influence is strongest where it enables others across government to better understand, engage with, and respond to Pacific peoples.

Case study: Preserving access to Pacific broadcasting and information services

The challenge

Pacific Media Network (PMN) faced the loss of its primary AM terrestrial broadcasting platform in Auckland after Radio New Zealand confirmed that its southern AM transmission mast at Henderson would be decommissioned by June 2026. Without an alternative transmission arrangement, PMN would no longer be able to broadcast its 531pi service on AM from the site.

This presented a risk for Pacific communities. 531pi provides Pacific language, cultural, and public information programming, with older Pacific people particularly reliant on terrestrial radio and more likely to experience barriers to accessing information digitally. The service has also played an important role in communicating public and emergency information to Pacific communities.

PMN, a trusted Pacific broadcaster, raised the issue with the Minister for Pacific Peoples and sought government support to identify an alternative that would maintain terrestrial broadcasting in Auckland.

The response

The Ministry for Pacific Peoples worked across government to identify and progress a potential solution.

The Ministry engaged with the Ministry for Culture and Heritage to explore available broadcasting options and identified an existing Auckland FM frequency that was reserved but unused. It then worked with the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE), which is responsible for managing radio spectrum, and the Ministry for Culture and Heritage to develop a pathway for the frequency to be made available to PMN.

The Ministry provided advice on the implications of the AM mast closure for Pacific communities, briefed Ministers, supported cross-agency discussions and contributed to the development of the Cabinet proposal led by MBIE. This ensured the needs of Pacific audiences, including continued access to Pacific language and culturally relevant broadcasting, were considered in Government's decision-making.

The outcome

The cross-government work resulted in a solution that provides PMN with access to an Auckland FM frequency until 2031, supporting its transition away from the decommissioned AM transmission infrastructure.

The Cabinet proposal specifically provided for the existing reserved Auckland frequency to be made available to the National Pacific Media Trust, which operates PMN, until 2031 to support its transition from the RNZ AM transmission tower at Henderson.

The solution provides PMN with a pathway to maintain terrestrial broadcasting in Auckland and supports continued access to its Pacific language, cultural, and public information content. It also provides certainty while PMN continues its transition to digital and multimedia delivery.

Ministry advice and records of cross-agency and ministerial engagement, alongside Cabinet documentation, support the reported outcome and the Ministry's involvement in the policy process.

Why it matters

PMN occupies a distinctive role in connecting Pacific communities with information, language, and culture. Its 531pi service broadcasts in multiple Pacific languages and has provided trusted public information during significant events, including the COVID-19 response and the Hunga-Tonga Hunga-Ha'apai volcanic eruption.

The loss of terrestrial broadcasting without a viable alternative risked disproportionately affecting older Pacific people and others who face barriers to accessing digital services.

Living our value: Ola fetufaaki | Reciprocity

This work reflects *Ola fetufaaki | Reciprocity* through collaboration across government and with Pacific partners to support continued access to trusted information, language, and cultural content.

Case study: Supporting Pacific people into employment and tertiary education pathways

The challenge

A Pacific parent wanted to re-enter the workforce while pursuing a career in the health sector. After spending time away from employment to care for family, support was needed to identify a suitable pathway into employment, gain relevant industry experience, and prepare for future tertiary study.

The response

Through the Ministry's Tupu Aotearoa programme, the participant received tailored career guidance, employment support, and connections to education and training opportunities. Working with a Ministry-funded provider, the participant developed a pathway into healthcare.

Support included assistance to gain a First Aid Certificate, employment preparation, access to a digital device to support study readiness, attendance at a tertiary open day, support with an application for a Bachelor of Nursing programme, connections with current nursing students for mentoring, and practical resources to support future study. The provider also worked with an employer to identify flexible employment arrangements that balanced work and family responsibilities.

The outcome

The participant secured employment as a Support Worker with a health and disability services provider, gaining practical experience in a healthcare environment while preparing for tertiary study. The participant also completed an application for a Bachelor of Nursing programme and established a pathway to nursing study in 2026.

The employment opportunity provided workforce participation, practical industry experience, and confidence to pursue a career in the health sector.

Why it matters

By connecting participants with employment opportunities, training, and government-supported services, the programme helps create clearer pathways into sustainable employment and future qualifications.

It also highlights the importance of practical, culturally responsive support that helps participants move from aspiration to action and take steps towards long-term career goals.

Living our value: Magafaoa | Family

This work reflects *Magafaoa | Family* through support that enabled the participant to pursue employment and study while balancing family responsibilities. By helping create a pathway into healthcare, the programme supported both individual aspirations and future opportunities for the participant's family.

Case study: Connecting Pacific youth to government-supported education, training, and employment services

The challenge

A Pacific young person was seeking a pathway into employment and community service but was unsure of the opportunities available or how to access them. While motivated to build a meaningful career, support was needed to navigate education and training options and identify a pathway aligned with future aspirations.

The response

Through the Ministry for Pacific Peoples' Tupu Aotearoa programme, the participant received tailored career guidance, navigation support, and referrals to education and training services.

Working through a Ministry-funded provider, the participant was connected to NZSE's ATC Military Preparation Programme in Manukau. The Ministry helped the participant understand available options, connect with training opportunities, and access services aligned with their interests and goals.

The outcome

The participant successfully engaged with education and training services that provided a pathway to future employment opportunities.

The participant progressed from a Level 2 Vocational Pathways programme to a Level 3 Uniformed Services programme and was appointed Second in Command (2IC), demonstrating leadership growth and active engagement. Following successful completion, the participant secured entry into a Level Police Preparation Programme, representing a further step towards a career in public service.

The participant's progression shows how early connection to appropriate services, combined with ongoing navigation support, can enable sustained participation in education and training pathways and create routes to employment and public service careers.

Why it matters

By providing navigation support and facilitating access to appropriate programmes, the Ministry helps remove barriers to participation and improve access to opportunities that support long-term social and economic wellbeing. The participant's progression highlights how tailored support and effective partnerships can help Pacific young people build confidence, develop skills, and pursue sustainable employment pathways.

It also highlights the importance of trusted referral pathways and navigation support in helping Pacific peoples understand, access, and remain engaged with government-supported services.

Living our value: *Ola fetufaaki* | Reciprocity

This work reflects *Ola fetufaaki* / *Reciprocity* through collaboration between the Ministry, providers, and training organisations to support a Pacific young person to access opportunities, build capability, and progress towards employment.

Increased economic opportunities for Pacific peoples

Through business growth, skills, education pathways, and system influence

Economic participation supports financial security, wellbeing and long-term opportunity for Pacific peoples and families. Strong pathways through education, skills development, employment and enterprise also help build a more productive and resilient New Zealand economy.

Current state

In 2023 Pacific-owned businesses comprised 1.9% of all businesses with owners.

Pacific sole traders accounted for 2.2% of all sole traders.



3,555 businesses with Pacific owners and 1,716 Pacific sole traders

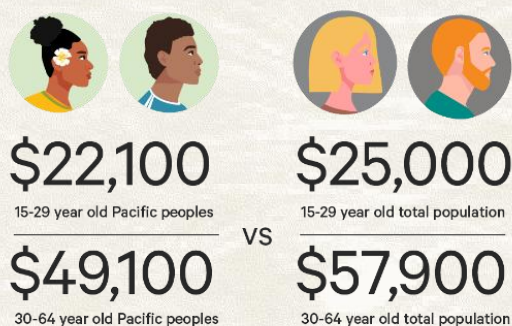
Source: O'Neale, D. & Van Loenhout, T. *Quantifying the Pacific Economy*. Nicholson Consulting for Auckland Council. Accessed from: [quantifying-the-pacific-economy-research-paper.pdf](#)



Business ownership rates for Pacific peoples are about 2%, significantly lower than the total population at 8%.

Source: The Treasury (2018). *The New Zealand Pacific Economy*. Accessed from: [New Zealand Pacific Economy - November 2018](#)

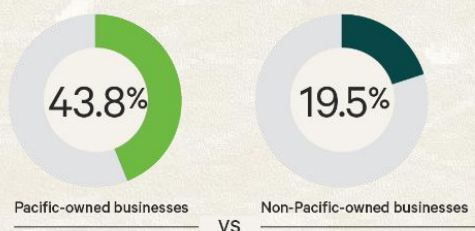
Median yearly income



Median yearly income for Pacific working population is \$22,100 (aged 15 – 29 years) and \$49,100 (aged 30 – 64 years) compared to \$25,000 and \$57,900 respectively for the overall New Zealand population.

Source: Statistics New Zealand (2025). *Census 2023 Place and Ethnic group summaries: Pacific peoples*. Accessed from: [Pacific Peoples, Place and ethnic group summaries | Stats NZ](#)

Māori and Pacific employment by business ownership



Pacific-owned businesses employed Māori and Pacific workers at more than double the rate (43.8%) of non-Pacific-owned businesses (19.5%) in 2021.

Source: The Southern Initiative (2025). *The Importance of Te Matapaeroa in equity initiatives for Māori and Pasifika*. Presentation by Tze Ming Mok, 11 March 2025.

During 2025/26, the Ministry focused its economic development investment on strengthening these pathways — supporting Pacific business capability, progression into employment and training, access to STEM and future-focused careers, and stronger alignment between agencies, providers and industry partners.

How the Ministry exercised stewardship and influence

Pacific perspectives were incorporated into economic development initiatives through partnerships, investment advice, and collaboration with delivery partners. This included working with businesses, providers, and other agencies to improve coordination across education, employment, skills, and business systems.

Through this work, the Ministry supported more coordinated pathways that connect education, training, employment, enterprise development, and future-focused industries for Pacific peoples.

Supporting Pacific economic pathways

Policy and investment decisions were informed by Pacific perspectives through structured engagement with communities, providers, and businesses.

This improved understanding of barriers to participation and supported more targeted policy and delivery responses. It also included working with partner agencies and providers to manage transitions following programme changes, ensuring continuity of support where possible and informing future approaches to Pacific economic development.

Pacific economic participation is strengthened when people can progress through connected pathways that build skills, support entry into employment, strengthen enterprise capability, and create access to emerging industries and future-focused careers.

During 2025/26, the Ministry supported different stages of this pathway:

- **Building future skills through the Toloa Scholarship Fund**, which supports Pacific learners into science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education and qualifications.
- **Supporting work readiness, training, and employment through Tupu Aotearoa**, which helps Pacific peoples move into employment, further education, and training.
- **Strengthening enterprise capability and business growth through Pacific Business Trust**, which supports Pacific-owned businesses to build capability, access advice and investment support, create jobs, and pursue growth opportunities.
- **Opening access to emerging industries and future-focused careers through initiatives such as Game On**, which connects Pacific youth with opportunities in New Zealand's growing technology and interactive media sectors.

Together, these initiatives support progression from education and skills development, through employment and enterprise, to participation in emerging industries, contributing to long-term workforce participation, productivity, and economic resilience for Pacific peoples.

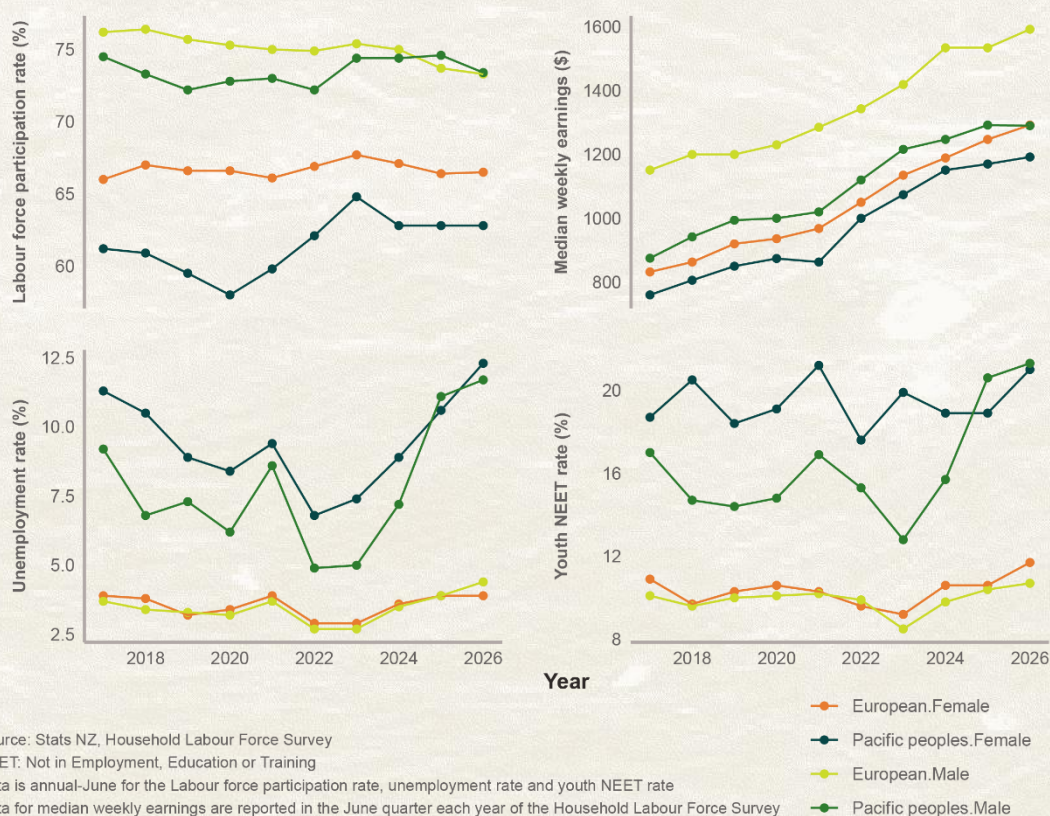
Evidence of impact

Evidence indicates Pacific peoples are progressing through multiple stages of the economic pathway. This includes participation in STEM education and tertiary study, progression into employment and training, business capability development, and increasing access to emerging industries. Together, these results demonstrate the value of connected pathways that support long-term economic participation and resilience.

Strategic indicators – broader economic context

Strategic indicators provide a system-level view of trends in outcomes for Pacific peoples. While not attributable to the Ministry, they provide important context for understanding how economic participation and outcomes for Pacific peoples are changing over time and how the wider system is performing.

Select economic indicators from the Household Labour Force Survey, latest available 10 years



Labour force participation has generally strengthened over time among Pacific males and, to a greater extent, among Pacific females. Pacific peoples experience higher unemployment rates than Europeans, and recent economic downturns have worsened labour market conditions for Pacific peoples.

Pacific peoples' median weekly earnings have increased over time at a similar rate to Europeans. However, pay gaps for Pacific peoples and women remain. These earnings data have not been adjusted for inflation, and differences in inflationary impacts across population groups make comparisons of median income data difficult.

While youth not in employment, education, or training (NEET) rates have fluctuated over time, recent economic conditions have contributed to higher rates. Pacific youth are more likely to be NEET than European youth, which can affect longer-term labour market outcomes.

Trend

These indicators suggest some long-term improvements in labour force participation and earnings; however, recent economic conditions have resulted in worsening outcomes for unemployment and youth NEET rates. Significant gaps remain between Pacific peoples and the total population across several economic measures.

Evidence of pathway progression

Evidence from the Toloa Scholarship Fund and Tupu Aotearoa demonstrates how Pacific peoples are progressing through different stages of the economic pathway, from education and skills development through to employment and sustained workforce participation.

Building future skills: Toloa Scholarship Fund

The Toloa Scholarship Fund supported progression into tertiary education and future-focused careers. Most recipients continued STEM study, 85% of Year 13 recipients progressed into further education or training, and more than one-third secured employment, including many in STEM-related roles.

Through scholarship support, the Fund helps build a pipeline of Pacific talent for higher-skilled occupations and supports participation in areas critical to productivity and economic growth.

Tolaa Scholarship Fund outcomes included:

- 325 scholarships awarded in 2025 (300 secondary scholarships; 25 tertiary scholarships)
- 411 scholarships awarded in 2026 (400 secondary scholarships; 11 tertiary scholarships)
- 100% of recipients studying STEM disciplines
- 100% of secondary recipients intend to pursue STEM subjects/studies in 2026
- 82% of tertiary recipients intend to pursue STEM subjects/studies in 2026
- 17% of 2025 recipient year 13 and tertiary students studying health in 2026
- 85% of year 13 recipients commenced study or training in 2026
- 76% of recipients are continuing tertiary study
- 37% of recipients secured work with 57% of these working in a STEM field.

Feedback from recipients indicates that the Toloa Scholarship Fund is helping Pacific learners access and continue tertiary education pathways. Recipients reported that the scholarship reduced financial barriers to study and enabled them to pursue qualifications while balancing family, childcare, and household responsibilities.

One recipient, a wife and mother of five, reported that the scholarship made it financially possible to commence and continue a Bachelor of Nursing. Another recipient said the scholarship enabled her to pursue nursing studies without taking on additional financial pressure for her family.

These experiences and participation outcomes demonstrate how the scholarship helps Pacific learners continue tertiary study, build in-demand skills, and progress towards higher-skilled employment and future-focused careers.

Supporting work readiness and employment: Tupu Aotearoa

Tupu Aotearoa further strengthened economic participation by supporting Pacific peoples into employment, training, and work-readiness opportunities at scale. Over the life of the programme, more than 6,498 Pacific peoples have been supported into employment, contributing to stronger workforce participation and long-term economic capability.

Tupu Aotearoa outcomes included:

- 1,571 participants progressed into employment, training and further education during 2025/26
- 900 employment placements achieved
- 650 training placements achieved
- 303 participants achieved six months continuous employment
- 225 participants achieved 12 months continuous employment.

These results demonstrate that Pacific peoples are progressing through education, training, and employment pathways, building workforce capability and creating clearer pathways into skilled and sustainable employment.

Evidence of Pacific business growth and capability

Pacific Business Trust (PBT) supported Pacific-owned businesses to access advice, capability-building support, and investment opportunities. Through these services, Pacific businesses strengthened capability, pursued growth opportunities, and increased participation in economic activity.

Strengthening enterprise capability and business growth: Pacific Business Trust

PBT continued to support Pacific businesses to build capability, strengthen resilience, and pursue growth opportunities. Through business advice, workshops, networking opportunities, and grant funding, PBT helped businesses develop the skills, connections, and resources needed to grow and succeed. The following results highlight the reach and impact of this support.

Pacific Business Trust outcomes included:

- 351 new Pacific businesses joined PBT
- 506 business health checks were completed, supporting Pacific businesses to identify opportunities for growth and development
- 453 businesses participated in business workshops delivered across Aotearoa
- 24.5 new jobs were created in Pacific-owned businesses, against a target of at least 200
- 1,696 businesses were supported and advised, against a target of at least 350
- 64.9% of businesses reported advisory services were relevant and useful, compared with a target of at least 75%.

While the results above highlight the breadth of services delivered by PBT during the year, non-financial performance reporting focuses on three measures: the number of businesses supported, employment outcomes reported by Pacific businesses, and businesses' views on the relevance and usefulness of the support received.

Performance across the non-financial performance measures was mixed. During 2025/26, PBT supported 1,696 businesses, significantly exceeding the target of at least 350. This reflects the broad range of support provided through advisory services, business assessments, workshops, networking activities, grant processes, and pastoral support.

However, the remaining performance measures did not achieve their targets. PBT reported 24.5 new jobs against a target of at least 200, while a separate Ministry client perception survey found that 64.9% of respondents provided a positive rating of the relevance and usefulness of PBT's advisory services and support, against a target of at least 75%. The survey received 188 valid responses and was reported for the first time in 2025/26.

As part of its stewardship role, the Ministry continues to monitor PBT's performance and governance. The Ministry will work closely with PBT to strengthen governance, improve the quality and consistency of performance reporting, strengthen data quality and assurance processes, and support improved delivery in 2026/27.

Case study 1: Strengthening Pacific business capability and growth through digital visibility

The challenge

Naki Islander is a Pacific-owned business based in Taranaki that brings together Pacific food, apparel, and culture to serve its local community. While the business had established strong community connections and a loyal customer base, its growth was constrained by reliance on word-of-mouth referrals, limited online visibility, manual enquiry processes, and the need for clearer business planning and market positioning. These challenges made it harder for customers to discover the business and engage with its products and services.

The response

Pacific Business Trust (PBT) provided support through Professional Capability Funding, followed by a Capital Investment Grant. The support focused on business strategy and planning, marketing and brand positioning, digital and website support, Google Business Profile setup, sales and business process improvement, and community and market development.

The outcome

Following the support, Naki Islander established a stronger and more visible business presence. Reported outcomes included clearer strategic priorities, stronger presentation of its food and apparel offerings, website foundations, improved online visibility, and a Google Business Profile. Within days of the profile going live, 18 customers had searched for and located Naki Islander through Google Maps.

Why it matters

Targeted capability support helped Pacific businesses strengthen their systems, improve visibility, and increase customer access. Practical interventions delivered at the right stage of a business's development can support sustainable growth and create stronger foundations for the future.

Living our value: *Ola fetufaaki* | Reciprocity

This work reflects *Ola fetufaaki* | *Reciprocity* through support that strengthens connections between a Pacific-owned business and its community. By improving visibility and customer access, Naki Islander is better positioned to share Pacific culture, products, and services while contributing to its local economy.

Case study 2: Strengthening Pacific business capability and growth through cultural innovation

The challenge

Building a successful restaurant in New Zealand's competitive hospitality sector requires investment, capability, and market visibility. Executive Chef Henry Onesemo and his wife Debby established TALA in Auckland to showcase Samoan cuisine through a contemporary fine-dining experience. Drawing on traditional knowledge, storytelling, and fa'a Samoa, the restaurant offers a distinctive expression of Samoan culture. Achieving this vision required investment in the business and opportunities to build its profile within a competitive market.

The response

Pacific Business Trust (PBT) provided TALA with \$9,421 in support through a combination of capital funding, sponsorship, and grants for services. The support included capital funding, sponsorship assistance, and access to professional services.

The outcome

Since opening its permanent restaurant in 2023, TALA has received significant national and international recognition. These achievements include a score of 19 out of 20 and Three Hats in the Cuisine Good Food Guide, inclusion in TIME's World's Greatest Places 2026, recognition for Chef Henry Onesemo through The Best Chef Awards, and a Michelin Star in the inaugural Michelin Guide New Zealand 2026.

Why it matters

TALA demonstrates how a Pacific-owned business can successfully bring Samoan culture, food, and storytelling to new audiences through a distinctive business model. While the restaurant's achievements reflect the vision, leadership, and expertise of its owners and team, it also shows how Pacific enterprise contributes to economic participation while showcasing Pacific culture and innovation.

Living our value: Ola fetufaaki | Reciprocity

This work reflects *Ola fetufaaki* | *Reciprocity* through the sharing of Samoan culture, knowledge, and hospitality in ways that create value for both the business and the wider community. TALA's success shows how Pacific enterprise can celebrate and share Pacific identity while achieving recognition in a competitive market.

Case study 3: Strengthening Pacific business capability and growth through market readiness

The challenge

Poly Bites is a Christchurch-based Pacific-owned food business established by two sisters to share the tastes and flavours of their childhood with a wider audience. Using ingredients central to island cuisine, including taro and banana, the business had grown from selling at local markets and festivals and was seeking to enter larger commercial markets. Achieving this next stage of growth required supply chain readiness, industry connections, and an understanding of the requirements for supermarket distribution.

The response

Pacific Business Trust (PBT) provided early-stage supply chain consulting to support Poly Bites' preparation for the fast-moving consumer goods market. Through this support, the business was introduced to a Foodstuffs buyer. PBT also sponsored a stall for Poly Bites at the Canterbury Home Show and later supported product lab testing as part of the business's preparation for supermarket distribution.

The outcome

Following this support, Poly Bites progressed toward commercial supermarket supply. Reported outcomes included increased supply chain knowledge, a connection with a Foodstuffs buyer, participation in the Canterbury Home Show, and advancement of product lab testing required for supermarket distribution.

During the Canterbury Home Show, the business sold out of its banana chips on the first day, demonstrating customer demand for its products. Poly Bites was also named a finalist in the 2025 PBT Pacific Business Awards.

Why it matters

Targeted business support helps Pacific-owned businesses prepare for growth opportunities beyond local markets. Capability support, industry connections, and market exposure can help businesses build the knowledge, relationships, and readiness needed to pursue larger commercial opportunities.

Living our value: *Ola fetufaaki* | Reciprocity

This work reflects *Ola fetufaaki* | *Reciprocity* through the sharing of Pacific food, culture, and traditions with wider audiences. By creating opportunities for growth while remaining connected to cultural identity, Poly Bites shows how Pacific enterprise can contribute to both economic participation and cultural visibility.

Case study 4: Game On – Opening access to future-focused industries

The Game On initiative demonstrates how an innovative, partnership-based approach can strengthen economic pathways for Pacific peoples by connecting them to emerging, high-growth industries.

What was done

Game On is a four-year initiative that supports Pacific youth to translate their interest in gaming into employment opportunities within Aotearoa New Zealand's growing technology and interactive media sector.

Investment of \$1 million over four years, alongside matched contributions from industry partners, supported an approach aligning Pacific workforce capability with industry demand.

The initiative is delivered in partnership with the New Zealand Game Developers Association, PikPok, The Cause Collective, and Tupu Toa, bringing together industry expertise, training pathways, and community networks.

The programme includes school outreach, studio engagement, mentoring, and internships, designed to:

- build practical technical and professional skills
- strengthen confidence and readiness for employment
- connect learning with real-world industry experience.

Game On also builds on wider work to strengthen Pacific achievement in STEM, linking education pathways directly to employment opportunities.

What changed

Game On is creating new pathways into well-paid roles in the technology and gaming sector, with the initiative aiming to support up to **57 Pacific youth into employment**, with starting salaries between **\$65,000 and \$80,000**.

The initiative strengthens connections between Pacific communities and employers in future-focused industries, improving access to opportunities that are not always visible through traditional pathways.

It also supports industry by addressing skill shortages and increasing access to Pacific talent, contributing to a more diverse workforce.

The programme is building a pipeline of talent by connecting education, training, and employment pathways into higher-skilled and future-focused sectors.

Living our value: *Ola fetufaaki* | Reciprocity

Game On reflects *Ola fetufaaki* / *Reciprocity* by connecting Pacific youth with industry opportunities that create mutual benefit for communities and employers. Through collaboration between government, industry, community organisations, and Pacific youth, the initiative supports shared success by helping young people build skills, access employment opportunities, and contribute to a stronger technology workforce.

What we learned and how this informed our approach

Economic outcomes for Pacific peoples are strengthened when pathways across education, skills development, employment, enterprise, and future-focused industries are connected and mutually reinforcing.

The evidence shows that progress is strongest where Pacific peoples can move more easily between different stages of the economic pathway. Education and skills development create the foundation for employment, employment opportunities build workforce participation and experience, enterprise support strengthens business growth and job creation, and future-focused initiatives help connect Pacific peoples to emerging industries and higher-value opportunities.

Targeted, well-aligned initiatives supported through strong partnerships are more effective in improving participation and enabling progression through economic pathways. Where coordination across agencies, providers, businesses, and industry partners is actively supported, pathways are clearer, delivery is more consistent, and opportunities are more sustainable over time.

Insight: Connected pathways create stronger economic outcomes

Economic outcomes are strongest where Pacific peoples can progress through connected pathways that build skills, support employment, strengthen enterprise capability, and create access to future-focused industries.

Connected pathways help Pacific peoples build capability, access opportunities, and participate in sustainable economic growth.

Sustained Pacific languages and cultural strength

Supporting identity, wellbeing, and long-term resilience

Pacific languages and cultures are central to identity, belonging and wellbeing, and are an important part of Aotearoa New Zealand's identity as a Pacific nation.

Language vitality differs across Pacific communities, and for some languages intergenerational transmission and everyday use remain under pressure. At the same time, demand for language learning and community-led cultural activity remains strong.

During 2025/26, the Ministry focused on increasing opportunities for Pacific languages to be learned, used, heard and passed on. This included supporting community-led language initiatives, strengthening access to language resources, increasing visibility through Pacific Language Weeks and media, and working with providers and partners to support long-term language vitality.





How the Ministry exercised stewardship and influence

Pacific language revitalisation is a long-term and intergenerational challenge. The Ministry's role is not simply to fund individual initiatives, but to strengthen the wider language ecosystem that supports Pacific languages to be valued, learned, used, and passed on to future generations.

The Ministry's approach focuses on three areas that are critical to language revitalisation:

- **Attitudes** – ensuring Pacific languages are valued, visible and recognised
- **Actions** – increasing opportunities for people to learn, use and pass on Pacific languages
- **Access** – strengthening the resources, workforce, leadership, and infrastructure needed to support long-term vitality.

In 2025/26, Pacific languages and cultures were supported through a connected portfolio of investments designed to strengthen attitudes, actions, and access. These initiatives included:

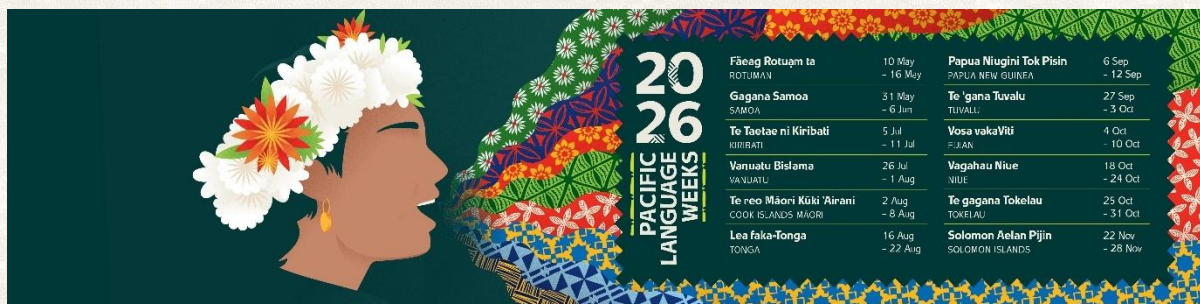
- Pacific Language Weeks: delivered via a comprehensive awareness-raising communications campaign and community-led events
- Pacific Languages Community Fund: supporting language learning and resource development
- Pacific Language Classes: delivered by the Centre for Pacific Languages
- Pacific Languages Broadcasting and Media: investment to support the use of Pacific languages
- Moana Reo Media Fund: in partnership with Pacific Media Network to invest in Pacific language media content produced by artists, actors, musicians, and other creatives
- Mātala: Growing Language Futures in partnership with Pacific Kids Learning to generate original Pacific language animations, songs, and teacher resources
- Tala: Telling Pacific stories in partnership with Creative New Zealand to support the development and publishing of Pacific language poetry and plays.

These initiatives created more opportunities for Pacific languages to be used across homes, schools, churches, workplaces, media, digital spaces, and communities. They also strengthened the conditions needed for long-term language revitalisation and maintenance.

Evidence of impact

To achieve meaningful progress in Pacific language revitalisation and maintenance, investment must strengthen three interconnected areas:

- **Attitudes:** Pacific languages are valued, people understand the challenges facing their languages, and recognise their role in protecting and promoting them.
- **Actions:** People are learning, using, and passing on Pacific languages in their families and communities.
- **Access:** Communities have access to the teachers, leaders, resources, and infrastructure needed to support ongoing language learning and use.



Language investment strengthens attitudes towards Pacific languages

Pacific Language Weeks, media investment and community-led activities continued to increase the visibility, recognition, and value of Pacific languages across Aotearoa New Zealand.

Pacific Language Week content showcased Pacific languages, basic phrases, and community events gaining over 7.5 million impressions and over 270,000 interactions (comments, likes, shares). This represents a 45% increase in interactions compared to the 2024/25 period. This means Pacific language content is reaching more people, and more people are engaging with it. This could represent an increasing awareness of the value of Pacific languages across New Zealand.

Independent recognition of digital engagement

The Ministry's digital engagement approach also received independent recognition during 2025/26. An analysis of more than 650 central and local government social media accounts in New Zealand ranked the Ministry for Pacific Peoples as the second-highest agency for audience growth between 1 July 2025 and 30 June 2026.

The analysis described the Ministry's social media channels as *warm, colourful, and very human*, and highlighted the 2026 Kiribati Language Week video content for its social-first approach and audience engagement.

Source: Independent analysis conducted by Seamus Boyer, a consultant and analyst specialising in New Zealand local and central government social media.

The Ministry also supported more than 80 local community-led events, reaching over 30,000 participants nationwide, at least half of these being children and young people. This level of reach for a relatively small investment demonstrates the value of community-led action in promoting Pacific languages.

Across the 83 funded events:

- 87% of community groups strongly agreed that their initiative raised awareness of the importance of their Pacific language
- 83% of community groups strongly agreed that their events increased motivation of participants to learn and use their Pacific language
- 77% of community groups strongly agreed that their initiative provided youth with leadership experience
- 63% of community groups strongly agreed their initiative improved the mental health of participants.

These results suggest Pacific languages are becoming more visible, valued and celebrated across communities and wider New Zealand society.

Increasing opportunities to learn, use and pass on Pacific languages in Pacific families and communities

Investment in Pacific languages created more opportunities for people to learn and use Pacific languages across New Zealand.

Free online classes delivered through the Centre for Pacific Languages, supported 1,010 learners to complete Pacific language courses across 12 languages. Participants reported that the courses helped them to:

- strengthen their Pacific language skills and confidence to use their language in everyday settings
- deepen their understanding of Pacific cultural values, traditions, and identity
- strengthen connections with their heritage, family, and community
- use their language more often with children, parents, grandparents, and wider family
- support the ongoing transmission and use of Pacific languages across generations.

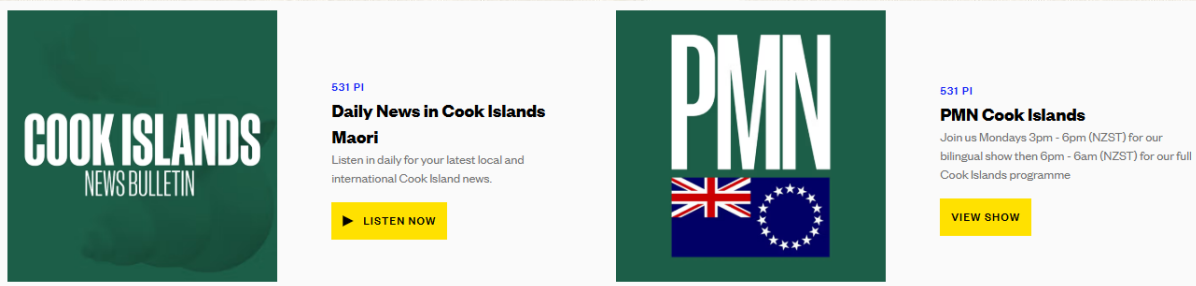
Community-led initiatives further expanded learning opportunities. The Pacific Languages Community Fund funded approximately 19 groups to deliver community-led language classes in eight different languages reaching approximately 7,458 participants nationally.

Evidence suggests that these investments are strengthening both language capability and confidence:

- 74% of community groups reported increased learner confidence
- 100% reported improvements in learners' ability to speak the language they were learning
- 53% of community groups reported positive impacts on employment opportunities of learners who took part in their classes.

The portfolio also strengthened opportunities to hear and use Pacific languages beyond formal learning settings, and into the media and broadcasting space. Through Pacific Media Network and Samoa Capital Radio, more than 7,332 hours of Pacific language broadcasting were delivered during the year. Pacific Media Network also supported weekly Pacific language shows, promotion of Pacific Language Weeks, and targeted initiatives for Pacific youth. This is important given the role Pacific music, radio, and broadcasting has in supporting Pacific language use in homes.

Improving access to Pacific language resources, capability, and support



Improving access to quality language resources remains critical to long-term language revitalisation. In 2025/26, investment focused on increasing the availability of Pacific language resources for different ages, proficiency levels, and learning contexts. These included resources designed to teach, entertain, engage, and support language use:

- The Moana Reo Media Fund supported the creation of 19 new Pacific language media products.
- Matala: Growing Language Futures produced nine new songs, animated stories, and teacher resource packs.
- The Pacific Languages Community Fund invested in community-led resource creation to meet local resource needs.

The Ministry also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Creative New Zealand to deliver *The Ocean Remembers*, a book of bilingual poems, offering the opportunity for Pacific poets to be published for the first time, as well as the translation of two plays into Pacific languages. These add to the availability of Pacific language literature, as well as supporting a pipeline of Pacific creatives to gain experience and opportunities in the arts.

During the year:

- 21 community groups developed different types of Pacific language learning resources including flashcards, storybooks, teaching resources, videos, apps, songbooks, lesson packs, and other digital resources.
- Of these initiatives, 86% of community groups reported increased learner confidence resulting from the resources developed.
- 77% reported improvements in Pacific language capability among users.
- 265 Pacific language resources were produced across multiple formats and languages, including children's entertainment, music, teaching resources, and storybooks.

The investments strengthened access to the resources, capability and infrastructure required to support ongoing language learning and use across generations.

Strategic indicators – system-level context

While language revitalisation remains a long-term challenge, there are encouraging signs that the attitudes and critical awareness required for language revitalisation and maintenance are strong.

Pacific languages are valued by Pacific people...

- 86% of Pacific respondents agree it would matter to them if their Pacific language was lost
- 95% of Pacific respondents agree that Pacific languages are important for future generations
- 88% of Pacific respondents agree it is important for children and future generations to speak Pacific languages
- 82% of Pacific respondents agree it is important to them to master their parents' Pacific languages.

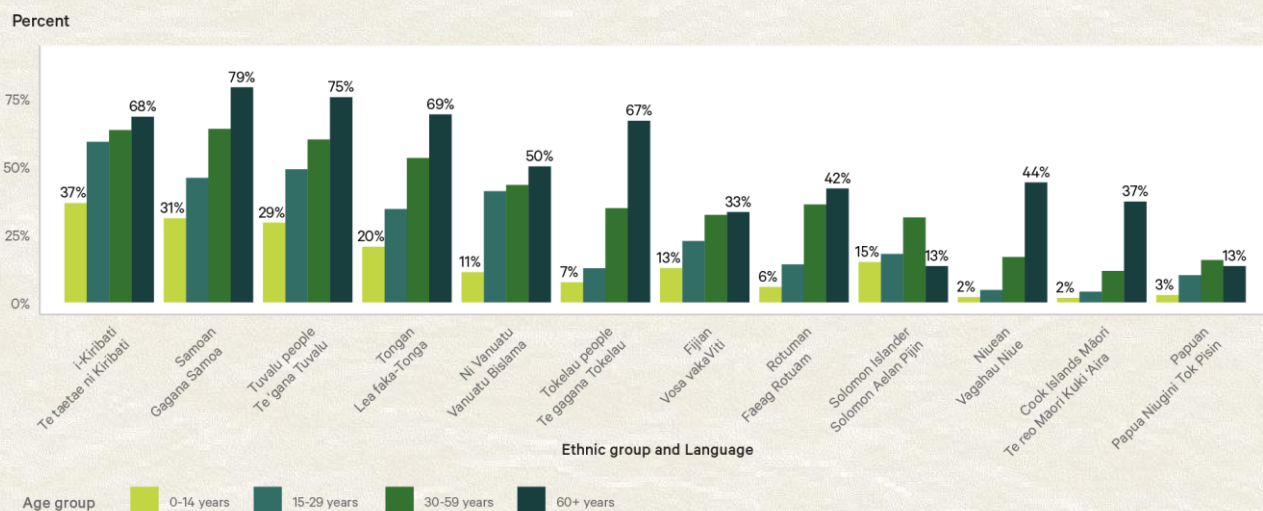
Source: [Leo-Moana-Survey-Report-Web2.1.pdf](#)

Evidence from the Leo Moana o Aotearoa survey shows strong and consistent support for Pacific language maintenance across all language communities. Between 94% and 100% of respondents agreed that it is important for their children and future generations to speak their Pacific language. This demonstrates the high value Pacific communities continue to place on their languages and highlights the strong foundations that exist for language revitalisation and maintenance efforts.

At the same time, many Pacific languages are not as widely spoken as they were a generation ago. Intergenerational transmission remains a significant challenge, particularly for smaller language communities.

... but they are not generally being passed down to younger generations in New Zealand.

Percentage of ethnic language speakers by age group, 2023

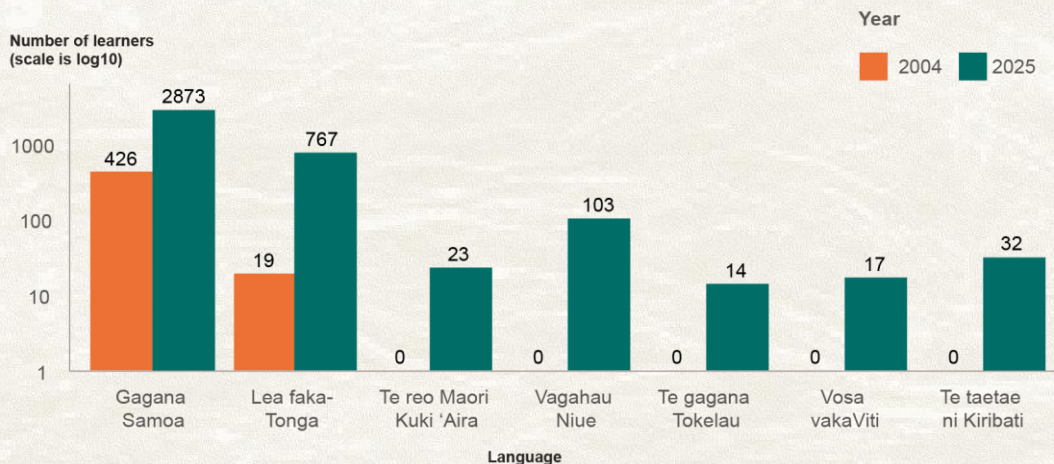


Source: Stats NZ, Integrated Data Infrastructure, 2023 Census Usually Resident Population
 These results are not official statistics. They have been created for research purposes from the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI) which is carefully managed by Stats NZ. For more information about the IDI please visit <https://www.stats.govt.nz/integrated-data/>. Access to the data used in this study was provided by Stats NZ under conditions designed to give effect to the security and confidentiality provisions of the Data and Statistics Act 2022. The results presented in this study are the work of the author, not Stats NZ or individual data suppliers.

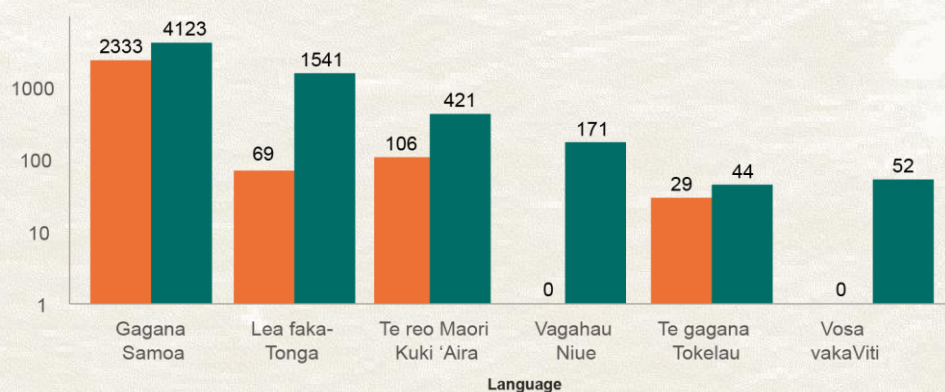
However, increasing numbers of children and young people are learning in bilingual and immersion settings, and learning Pacific languages as a separate subject.

Learners of Pacific languages in a bilingual/immersion unit or as a separate subject in 2004 and 2025

Bilingual/immersion



As a separate subject



Source: Ministry of Education, Education Counts

Bilingual/immersion is classified as 51% or more Pacific language use in the Action Plan for Pacific Education Measurement Framework.

But better support is needed to address barriers to Pacific language revitalisation and maintenance

Evidence from the Leo Moana o Aotearoa survey shows that the most commonly reported barriers include limited connection to Pacific culture and identity, insufficient funding and resources for language initiatives, limited access to language learning opportunities and resources, and reduced opportunities to use Pacific languages in homes and everyday settings. These findings highlight that sustaining Pacific languages requires action across the language ecosystem, including strengthening cultural connection, increasing access to learning opportunities, supporting families to use languages in the home, and ensuring community-led language initiatives are adequately resourced [Source: [Leo Moana o Aotearoa survey ethnic specific reports](#)].

What we learned and how this informed our approach

Sustaining Pacific languages and cultural strength requires coordinated support that is informed by evidence, grounded in community experience, and reinforced through partnerships across government and with communities.

The Ministry's impact is strongest where it supports community leadership, increases the visibility and use of Pacific languages, and ensures language and cultural priorities are reflected in policy and investment decisions.

Experience during 2025/26 reinforced that no single initiative can revitalise a language. Progress is strongest when investments work together to increase visibility, create learning opportunities, support language use and strengthen access to quality resources. Awareness creates motivation, learning builds capability, and families and communities create the conditions for languages to be used and passed on across generations.

Evidence from the Leo Moana o Aotearoa survey highlighted several common barriers to language engagement across Pacific communities. These include weakened connections to culture and identity, limited access to learning opportunities and resources, insufficient support for community-led initiatives, and reduced opportunities to use Pacific languages in homes and everyday settings.

In response, the Ministry strengthened its monitoring and reporting approach during 2025/26 to improve visibility of collective impact across initiatives. This included clearer success measures, more regular performance reporting, and improved oversight of community-led investments.

Looking ahead, there remain opportunities to optimise the investment in languages 2026/27 and beyond by prioritising:

- language learning pathways that support progression over time
- support for families to transmit languages in homes and communities
- growth of the language workforce pipeline and
- stronger evidence of long-term language and cultural outcomes.

These priorities are intended to address the barriers identified by communities and strengthen the conditions required for long-term language revitalisation and maintenance.

Pacific language initiatives are increasing participation, visibility, and engagement, strengthening identity and wellbeing across communities.

Case studies demonstrating language revitalisation

Case study 1: Moana Reo Media Fund delivered in partnership with Pacific Media Network

What was done

For the first time in 2024/25 and 2025/26 the Ministry partnered with Pacific Media Network to commission creatives, artists, and filmmakers to produce Pacific language media content designed to teach, inform, and entertain audiences. The Fund was designed to empower creatives to produce media that celebrates, preserves, and strengthens Pacific languages, to support wider use of Pacific languages in media spaces, and grow the Pacific media sector by building the skills, capability, and experience of young Pacific creatives.

Across the two funding rounds, there were requests for approximately \$28.8 million, showing high demand from Pacific creatives for language-focused content. \$2.2 million was awarded to 35 different projects. This included:

- 10 documentaries/docuseries
- 10 music projects (including both song writing and music videos)
- 6 children's entertainment projects
- 6 vodcasts
- 1 short film
- 1 mockumentary
- 1 non-scripted comedy series.



What changed

The Moana Reo Media Fund increased the availability of Pacific language media content, employment opportunities for Pacific creatives, and valuable experience for young Pacific creatives. While the majority of 2025/26 funded projects are still in production, ongoing reporting on both funding rounds highlights key achievements so far:

- **Increased availability of Pacific language media content** for 10 Pacific languages (gagana Samoa, te reo Māori Kūki 'Airani, vagahau Niue, lea faka Tonga, vosa vakaViti, gagana Tokelau, te gana Tuvalu, fāeag Rotuām ta, te taetae ni Kiribati, Papua Niugini tok Pisin). Audience feedback confirmed the positive impact:
 - 'This doco has made me want to learn Samoan... to teach my children.'
- **Recognition of talent through invitations and awards.** Island Vibes, a nine-piece multicultural Pasifika band from Auckland funded to write four original songs in vagahau Niue, gagana Samoa, and lea faka-Tonga and produce two music videos, have had two of their songs nominated for a Pacific Music Award 2026. Their song Tonga Tū Ketau Tuē has been streamed close to 130,000 times since it was released in August 2025. Similarly, one of the Executive Producers from Poporazzi Productions who were funded to create video diaries profiling languages during Language Weeks, was nominated as Young New Zealander of the Year at just 18 years old in recognition of her creative leadership, production of an award-winning documentary, and her efforts to revitalise Pacific languages through her Moana Reo project.
- **Creation of employment opportunities.** The Moana Reo Media Fund is credited with the creation of more than 400 employment opportunities across the two funding rounds. These opportunities also value and strengthen the language and cultural skills of Pacific creatives.
- **Enhancing the leadership and experience of young Pacific creatives.** In addition to recognition via awards, feedback from participants confirmed the Fund's impact on young Pacific creatives.
 - 'For me as a Samoan/Māori woman, this project helped me to step into another layer of leadership which required confidence and cultural competency.'
 - 'There was a multitude of firsts on this project. The team learned so much and for our executive producer, it has opened up a whole new opportunity and career path for her to follow.'



Case study 2: Revitalising vagahau Niue in Ōtautahi Christchurch (supported through the Pacific Languages Community Fund)

What was done

With support from the Ministry for Pacific Peoples, Niue Community Christchurch (NCC) delivered a six-month, community-led initiative to strengthen Vagahau Niue among children, youth, adults, and whānau in 2024/25. The group received additional funding for 2025/26 to continue and expand delivery.

The initiative responded to the urgent decline of Vagahau Niue by combining early childhood learning, family-centred workshops, and evidence-informed programme design in a culturally safe environment. In 2024/25, the Ministry contributed \$40,000 but the community raised an additional \$37,385 to support their initiative, demonstrating their ability to attract additional non-government funding. In 2025/26 they received an additional \$100,000 to continue to run workshops and playgroups and begin developing online resources to support language learning.

Fuata Niue workshops	Tama Tote playgroup	Evaluation and learning
In 2024/25 NCC delivered six beginner Vagahau Niue workshops for youth, adults and families; 77 registered and average attendance of 42 per session. In 2025/26 they have completed an additional 8 workshops out of a total of 18.	In 2024/25 NCC delivered 12 play-based sessions for under-5s and caregivers; 17 children registered, with whānau learning songs, prayer, books, and everyday words together. In 2025/26 they have delivered 18 Tama Tote playgroup session, out of a total of 36 sessions.	A mixed-method evaluation, literature review, surveys, tests, interviews, and talanoa-style feedback generated 183 responses and 11 family interviews.

What changed

The initiative lifted both language ability and the conditions needed for language revitalisation: confidence, identity, belonging, and regular community use. Participants reported using Vagahau Niue at home, school, church, and work. Children in the Tama Tote playgroup demonstrated early gains such as greetings, counting, and songs, with caregivers noting language transfer into the home and playground.

120+ Niuean people and whānau benefitted	52% increase in confidence using Niuean words	59% increase in confidence in Niuean culture
41 points increase in language test competency (54% to 95%)	32% increase in belief that being fluent in Niuean is a possibility	4.8–5.0/5 high participant ratings across key programme areas

Community-led, culturally grounded language revitalisation can be effective when adequately resourced and supported. It received media attention for the impact it has created: [From four children to 20: Christchurch playgroup helps keep Niue language alive](#).



Tama Tote Niue Playgroup celebrated its first anniversary on 14 June. Photo/Facebook

‘From the young kids right through to adults, everyone got something out of it.’

Fuata Niue participant

Case study: Mātala: growing language futures

What was done

Building on a successful partnership in 2024/25, the Ministry funded Pacific Kids Learning to develop a series of original, authentic animations, songs, and teacher resources under the banner of *Mātala: growing language futures*. In 2024/25 this included resource packages for gagana Sāmoa, lea faka-Tonga, te reo Māori Kuki ‘Airani, vagahau Niue, te gana Tuvalu, and te gagana Tokelau. In 2025/26, this partnership continued with the development of resource packages for fāeag Rotuām ta, te taetae ni Kiribati, and vosa vakaViti. Each package is developed using a village-centred production model, in partnership with community language and cultural knowledge holders and is made freely available for use in homes, schools, and communities.

The development of these resource packages is key to:

- improving access to Pacific language and cultural resources
- supporting intergenerational transmission and language use in homes
- building a repository of resources that support biliteracy for use in Pacific bilingual and immersion contexts where resource shortages are a barrier to supporting Pacific learners.

What changed

The Mātala series delivered a wide range of Pacific language products and resources for use in homes, communities, and schools. All supporting resources were designed by literacy experts and support children to integrate both language input (listening, reading, viewing) and outputs (speaking, writing, presenting) in meaningful, context-rich ways. This adds to the repository of resources housed on the Pacific Digital Library (launched by Pacific Kids Learning in 2024), which now has more than 350 bilingual animations in 11 Pacific languages, plus English.

Key achievements as part of the Mātala initiative include:

- 9 new original animated songs, 9 new animated stories (available in both English and Pacific languages), and 9 supporting resources packages with 135 literacy activities available for use in families and schools across 2024/25 and 2025/26.
- Pacific Kids Learning received two Pacific Business Awards – the Community Impact Award and the Technology & Innovation Award for their work to digitise Pacific languages and cultures for future generations to enjoy.
- Pacific Kids Learning recognised with the award for Best Pacific Language song with Vevela Mai he Lā (vagahau Niue).
- Strengthening relationships with Pacific bilingual and immersion units with the launch of the Kiribati resource package at Finlayson Park School, home to New Zealand’s only te taetae ni Kiribati unit.

Of the 10 schools that piloted the resources:

- 80% strongly agreed the language pack supported the use of Pacific languages in their classroom
- 70% strongly agreed the pack was easy to use and useful for teachers
- 50% strongly agreed the resources gave their students more confidence to use the language.

‘I’ve worked in a school for over 20 years that has a strong digital learning context. We’ve always promoted the art of storytelling using graphics, animations and voiceovers. To see the excellent quality that PKL produces is so encouraging for our school and parent community.’

From a teacher who piloted the resources.



Strengthening housing security and financial capability for Pacific families

Supporting wellbeing, security, and intergenerational opportunity

Secure, healthy housing provides an important foundation for family wellbeing, financial stability and long-term opportunity. For Pacific families, pathways to home ownership can also support greater security and intergenerational wealth.

Pacific peoples continue to experience lower rates of home ownership and greater housing affordability and quality pressures than the wider population. In 2025/26, the Ministry focused on the areas where it could make a direct contribution: increasing access to affordable housing, strengthening financial capability and home ownership readiness, improving housing quality, and connecting families with pathways and support.

This work was delivered through a connected portfolio of initiatives, including Our Whare Our Fare, the Financial Capability Programme, Pacific Building Affordable Homes and Pacific Healthy Homes.

Current State

Pacific home ownership



Source: Stats NZ, Census 2023. Note: Individual home ownership includes individuals who own or partly own their home or hold it in a family trust.

Pacific peoples in Kāinga Ora housing

17,000+

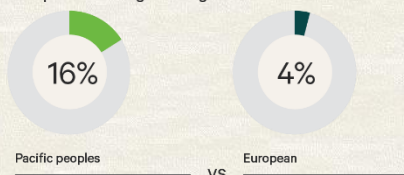
Pacific tenants in Kāinga Ora housing

6.6% increase

of Pacific tenants in Kāinga Ora housing between 2017 and 2024

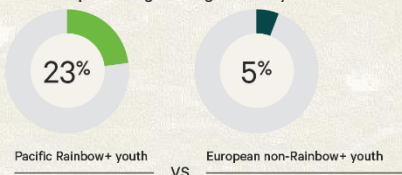
Source: The Salvation Army Social Policy & Parliamentary Unit (2024). *State of Pacific Peoples*. Wellington. Accessed from: [stateofpacificpeoples_2024_downloadversion_v4.pdf](#)

People in dwellings lacking basic amenities



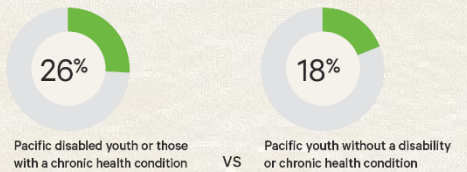
Source: Stats NZ, Census 2023. Number of basic amenities available, by ethnicity. Accessed from: [Aotearoa Data Explorer, explore.data.stats.govt.nz](#)

Youth experiencing housing instability



Source: Roy, R., Greaves, L. M., Peiris-John, R., Clark, T., Fenaughty, J., Sutcliffe, K., Barnett, D., Hawthorne, V., Tiatia-Seath, J., & Fleming, T. (2021). *Negotiating multiple identities: Intersecting identities among Māori, Pacific, Rainbow and Disabled young people*. The Youth19 Research Group, The University of Auckland and Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. This version published April 2021. Accessed: [Youth19+intersectionality+Report_FINAL_2021_print.pdf](#)

Housing instability for peoples with disability



26% of Pacific disabled youth or those with a chronic health condition report housing instability (compared to 19% of Pacific youth without a disability or chronic health condition).

Source: Veukiso-Ulugia, A., McLean-Orsborn, S., Clark, T. C., Yao, E., Kuresa, B., Drayton, B., & Fleming, T. (2024). *Talavou o le Moana. The health and wellbeing of Pacific secondary school students in Aotearoa New Zealand. A Youth19 report*. Youth19 Research Group, the University of Auckland and Victoria University of Wellington. Accessed from: [Pasifika+Report_interactive_130524.pdf](#)

How the Ministry exercised stewardship and influence

Stewardship was exercised by bringing together housing providers, community organisations, and government partners to improve coordination across housing access, financial capability, home ownership pathways, and housing quality initiatives. This supported more integrated responses to housing challenges experienced by Pacific families and strengthened pathways to sustainable home ownership.

This included initiatives such as the Financial Capability Programme, Our Whare Our Fale (OWOF), Pacific Building Affordable Homes (PBAH), and Pacific Healthy Homes (PHHI), which supported Pacific families to access suitable housing, build financial capability, improve housing quality, and progress towards home ownership. While delivered through different initiatives, these supports addressed factors that contribute to housing stability, wellbeing, and long-term housing security for Pacific families.

Evidence of impact

Performance results, homeowner feedback, case studies, and evaluation findings indicate improved housing access, stronger financial preparedness, better housing quality, and greater housing stability for participating Pacific families.

The evidence suggests that housing outcomes are strongest when housing access, financial capability, and housing quality are addressed together. For participating families, these factors contributed to greater stability, improved living conditions, increased confidence about the future, and stronger foundations for wellbeing.



Strategic indicators – system-level context

Strategic indicators provide a system-level view of trends in outcomes for Pacific peoples. While not solely attributable to the Ministry, they provide important context for understanding the impact areas and how system performance is changing over time.

In 2023, Census showed that only 19.9% of Pacific peoples owned their own home or held it in a family trust, much lower than the total population rate of 51.3%. Even after accounting for a younger age demographic, home ownership remains lower among Pacific peoples and has not been improving over time.

Select housing indicators from the Census and General Social Survey



Pacific peoples are also more likely to live in two- or three-family households than the total population, and households with at least one household member who is Pacific have a higher rate of crowding than total households. While there have been improvements in housing dampness and mould between 2018 and 2023, a greater proportion of Pacific peoples experience poor housing conditions than the general population.

Housing affordability remains a significant challenge for Pacific peoples. In the 2023 General Social Survey, Pacific respondents were more likely than the total population to report difficulty meeting housing costs. In 2024, 70% of renting households with Pacific peoples spent 30% or more of their income on rent [Source: [Housing in Aotearoa New Zealand: 2025 | Stats NZ](#)].

Trend

These indicators show that housing outcomes for Pacific peoples remain constrained, particularly in relation to affordability and household crowding. While there are areas of gradual improvement, access to stable and suitable housing continues to lag behind the wider population. This reinforces the importance of coordinated system responses, including increased housing supply, targeted support, and more effective alignment across agencies and delivery partners.

Housing stability, home ownership, and housing quality

Pacific families are supported through home ownership, financial capability, and housing quality initiatives designed to improve housing security and strengthen pathways to sustainable home ownership.

Housing delivery, financial capability services, housing quality interventions, and homeowner feedback point to improved housing stability, stronger financial preparedness, better housing conditions, and positive wellbeing outcomes for participating families.

Home ownership, housing stability, and wellbeing

Feedback from homeowners supported through the Our Whare Our Fale programme provides direct insight into how these outcomes are experienced by families. One hundred percent of surveyed homeowners reported improved wellbeing and housing outcomes, exceeding the target of 75%.

Homeowners described greater housing security, reduced stress, improved health and wellbeing, stronger community connections, and increased confidence in planning for the future. Many spoke about the peace of mind that comes from having a stable home and no longer facing uncertainty in the rental market.

‘There is a peace of mind in knowing that this house is ours and we can take care of something that we know will benefit us and our future plans. It's exciting to embark on this journey of becoming a homeowner and especially living in a wonderful community of first homeowners...’

Homeowner survey respondent

Others highlighted the broader impact that secure housing had on their daily lives, including improved wellbeing, stronger relationships, and increased productivity at work.

‘We definitely feel the benefits of owning our home. We are enjoying our village connection. We are being recognised at our jobs for being more productive. Our professional and personal relationships have strengthened. We attribute these benefits to feeling safe, secure and stable in our housing situation. We are no longer moving house to house, living in fear of being kicked out.’

Homeowner survey respondent

A theme was a greater sense of belonging and connection to community. Homeowners described being able to put down roots, invest in their neighbourhoods, and feel part of a community for the long term.

‘Greater housing stability and peace of mind. Improved quality of life through safer, healthier living conditions. A stronger connection and sense of belonging within the community.’

Homeowner survey respondent

For many families, this security was also linked to improved financial resilience and better health outcomes.

‘We have a better sense of connection to our community and where we live. We are able to truly call this our home; it belongs to us not a stranger or landlord. It makes our family happy to know this is our home, somewhere to put down roots. We no longer fear that the house could be sold or our rent would increase – giving us a sense of financial stability. With the rising cost of living, this is important. We are healthier – the warm home has reduced the number of asthma attacks / respiratory issues I'd normally get every winter because our rental place was cold and damp.’

Homeowner survey respondent

The survey findings indicate that the benefits of home ownership extend beyond housing access alone. Respondents consistently linked home ownership with greater stability, peace of mind, improved health outcomes, stronger community connections, and increased confidence about the future. Several homeowners also reported that secure housing had created a stronger foundation for their children's wellbeing and future opportunities.

These findings demonstrate that, for homeowners supported through the *Our Whare Our Fale* programme, home ownership contributed to improved wellbeing, greater housing security, stronger community connections, and increased confidence about the future.

Financial capability and home ownership readiness

Reporting from Financial Capability Programme providers identified recurring themes across participating households. Many Pacific families entered programmes with strong aspirations for home ownership but faced barriers including debt, cost-of-living pressures, limited understanding of lending requirements, and uncertainty about available pathways.

Providers reported that culturally responsive support, tailored financial planning, trusted professional networks, and ongoing navigation assistance helped families build financial confidence, better understand home ownership requirements, and take practical steps towards home ownership.

These findings suggest that financial capability support is most effective when it combines financial education with personalised planning, trusted relationships, and practical assistance to navigate the home ownership system. Together, these approaches helped families move from aspiration to greater home ownership readiness and informed decision-making.

What was done

An integrated approach linked home ownership, financial capability, and housing quality initiatives to support Pacific families. This included housing development through *Our Whare Our Fale*, financial capability services that help families prepare for home ownership, and targeted housing quality interventions through Pacific Healthy Homes.

What changed

These initiatives contributed to:

- improved access to stable, affordable, and fit-for-purpose housing
- stronger financial capability and preparedness for home ownership
- improved housing quality and living conditions
- greater housing security and stability for participating families
- clearer pathways into home ownership.

Housing access and home ownership

- 27 homes developed and built for Pacific families, against a target of between 25 and 35.
- 100% of new homeowners supported through Our Whare Our Fale reported improved wellbeing and housing outcomes, exceeding the target of 75%.

Financial capability and home ownership readiness

- 1,313 participants completed the Financial Capability Programme, against a target of at least 1,500.
- 478 participants developed a home ownership plan, exceeding the target of 200.
- 304 households progressed beyond planning and achieved a recognised home ownership outcome, either a conditional purchase agreement or a home ownership readiness milestone.
- A further 123 households remained actively in the home ownership pipeline.
- 100% of participants developed a financial plan with short- or long-term goals, exceeding the target of 80%.

Key insights from provider reporting²

- Home ownership aspirations are strong, but barriers remain. Debt, cost-of-living pressures, and uncertainty about lending requirements were the most commonly reported barriers to home ownership.
- Financial planning supports home ownership readiness. Providers reported that tailored planning, budgeting support, debt management, and savings goals helped families move from aspiration towards home ownership readiness.
- Trusted support helps families take action. Culturally responsive delivery, trusted relationships, and practical navigation support were consistently identified as key enablers of home ownership progression.

Housing quality

- 151 South Auckland and 50 Porirua households (201 total) received Pacific Healthy Homes interventions, against a target of at least 200.

Collectively, these outcomes demonstrate how housing access, financial capability, and housing quality contribute to greater housing stability, security, and wellbeing for Pacific families.

² Based on qualitative reporting submitted by Financial Capability Programme providers during 2025/26. These observations complement quantitative programme reporting and are intended to highlight common participant experiences and delivery insights.

Case study: Supporting healthier and safer homes for Pacific families

The challenge

Housing quality can significantly affect health, wellbeing, and quality of life, particularly for older people and other vulnerable households. The Pacific Healthy Homes initiative (PHHI) was established to address a gap in support for Pacific people aged 45 years and over who were at risk of housing-related illness and were not eligible for other healthy housing programmes.

The response

Delivered through trusted community providers in South Auckland and Porirua, PHHI provided tailored housing assessments and interventions, including heating, insulation, ventilation improvements, curtains, healthy housing advice, smoke alarms, draught stopping, minor repairs, and referrals to wider support services.

The outcome

An independent evaluation by the University of Otago, completed in October 2025, found that PHHI improved housing quality and housing-related wellbeing for participating Pacific households.

Participants reported warmer, drier, and safer homes, with improved ventilation and reduced mould. Repairs to windows and doors were particularly valued as they reduced draughts and improved the effectiveness of heating and insulation, making homes more comfortable and easier to heat.

The evaluation also found broader wellbeing benefits, including improved comfort, better health, reduced stress, and greater enjoyment of time at home. Some participants reported fewer cold-related symptoms and increased use of parts of their homes that had previously been too cold or damp.

For many families, the benefits extended beyond physical improvements to the home. Participants described being better able to welcome family members, host grandchildren and spend time together in warm and comfortable spaces.

Why it matters

For many Pacific households, the home is more than a place to live. It is a place of belonging, family connection, cultural identity, and care across generations. The evaluation found that trusted, culturally responsive relationships were a key factor in the programme's success, with participants reporting they felt respected, understood, and comfortable discussing housing challenges and support need.

Drawing on programme data, participant interviews, and independent analysis, the University of Otago found that improving housing quality can support housing stability by helping older Pacific people and their families live in warmer, drier, and safer homes, strengthening wellbeing, family connection, and resilience.

Living our value: Magafaoa | Family

This work reflects *Magafaoa | Family* by supporting warmer, safer homes and strengthening wellbeing, family connection, and resilience.

Evidence source: University of Otago, *Pacific Healthy Homes Pilot Evaluation* (October 2025). The evaluation assessed the Pacific Healthy Homes pilot delivered between July 2024 and June 2025. Findings are reported in 2025/26 following completion of the evaluation.

Case study: Our Whare Our Fale – enabling stable homes and stronger futures

What was done

The Our Whare Our Fale initiative demonstrates how a partnership-based approach can improve housing outcomes, expand pathways to home ownership, and support wellbeing for Pacific communities.

The initiative focuses on:

- delivering affordable, quality homes designed for multigenerational living
- supporting pathways to home ownership through shared equity and reduced upfront costs
- aligning housing delivery with broader outcomes, including employment and community development.

The first stage of the initiative delivered **18 energy-efficient homes** in Eastern Porirua, built to modern sustainability standards and supported by shared community infrastructure that fostered connection and belonging.

What changed

The initiative improved access to secure and affordable housing for Pacific families, providing stable living environments that support health, wellbeing, and future planning. Feedback from homeowners indicates that home ownership has contributed to greater peace of mind, reduced housing uncertainty, stronger community connections, and increased confidence about the future. Families reported feeling more secure knowing they had a permanent place to call home and were no longer exposed to the uncertainty of the rental market.

It also contributed to economic outcomes, with 36 jobs created across trades, engineering, and support services during the initial build phase. The development model supports long-term affordability by reducing land costs through lease arrangements and offering homes at cost, enabling more families to access pathways to ownership.

Looking ahead, the initiative establishes a pipeline for future development, with plans for up to 300 homes by 2034, creating opportunities for more Pacific families to access affordable home ownership.

Why it matters

By combining affordable housing delivery with pathways to home ownership, the initiative supports housing security, wellbeing, and long-term opportunities for Pacific families.

Living our value: Magafaoa | Family

This work reflects *Magafaoa | Family* by supporting stable homes and strengthening intergenerational wellbeing for Pacific families.

Case study: Progressing from aspiration to home ownership

The challenge

For many Pacific families, home ownership remains out of reach despite strong aspirations to own a home. Barriers such as consumer debt, lending requirements, affordability pressures, and navigating complex housing pathways can make it difficult to move from aspiration to action. The Tekavei family were renting while raising their three children and wanted a more stable and secure home environment. Although both adults were in stable employment and had KiwiSaver savings, they faced challenges common to many first-home buyers.

The response

Through the Financial Capability Programme, the family received tailored one-on-one support to strengthen their financial readiness. This included budgeting guidance, debt management, financial planning, lender readiness preparation, and assistance to understand housing pathways. As their readiness improved, support expanded to include shared equity assessments, engagement with lenders, legal processes, and guidance through the sale and purchase process. The programme combined financial capability services with access to a shared equity home ownership pathway delivered through Kāute Pasifika Trust and Pacific Housing Waikato, helping the family progress towards home ownership.

The outcome

The successful reduction and clearance of consumer debt strengthened the family's financial position and improved their lending profile. The family developed a stronger understanding of KiwiSaver, lending requirements, and the steps involved in purchasing a home. They progressed from an initial expression of interest through to mortgage approval, unconditional agreements, home allocation, and settlement.

Following the reporting period, in August 2026, the Tekavei family became the first family supported through Kāute Pasifika Trust's Shared Equity Programme to achieve home ownership and received the keys to their new four-bedroom home. The home was delivered through Pacific Housing Waikato and supported through the Ministry's Pacific Building Affordable Homes programme.

Tekavei kaiga



Why it matters

As the first family supported through Kāute Pasifika Trust's Shared Equity Programme to achieve home ownership, the outcome demonstrates how coordinated financial capability support, affordable housing investment, and partnership-based delivery can translate aspirations into home ownership. It highlights the importance of combining financial readiness support with housing pathways to improve access to sustainable home ownership and housing security for Pacific families. Trusted, culturally responsive support helped families navigate complex systems and make informed decisions throughout the home ownership journey.

‘We still can't believe it really happened, but here we are. This moment is full of joy. We made it.’

Tekavei family

Living our value: Magafaoa | Family

This work reflects *Magafaoa | Family* by supporting a Pacific family to achieve stable housing and building a stronger foundation for wellbeing and long-term housing security.

Tekavei kaiga celebration day



Case study: Supporting a Pacific family through a rent-to-own home ownership pathway

The challenge

Pacific families continue to experience lower rates of home ownership than the wider population and face significant housing affordability pressures. For larger families, accessing housing that is affordable, suitable, and stable can be particularly challenging. Barriers such as rising house prices, deposit requirements, and access to finance can make traditional home ownership pathways difficult to achieve.

A Pacific family with four children was seeking a long-term housing solution that met the needs of their growing household while providing a pathway to home ownership.

The response

Through the Pacific Building Affordable Homes Programme, the Ministry funded Housing Foundation New Zealand to increase the supply of affordable homes and expand home ownership opportunities for Pacific families.

The funding supported the delivery of a newly constructed four-bedroom, two-bathroom home in Māngere West. Following an assessment process, the family was accepted into Housing Foundation New Zealand's rent-to-own home ownership pathway, which supports families to transition into home ownership over time.

The family also received support through the Ministry's Financial Capability Programme delivered by FC&E Consulting, to strengthen their financial preparedness.

The outcome

In March 2026, the family moved into their new home. Through the rent-to-own pathway and financial capability support, the family gained long-term housing stability.

Why it matters

Support from the Ministry's Financial Capability Programme complemented the rent-to-own housing pathway by strengthening financial preparedness, helping the family overcome affordability barriers and build long-term housing security. Together, these interventions support Pacific families to progress towards sustainable home ownership and strengthen family wellbeing.

Living our value: *Magafaoa* | Family

This case study reflects *Magafaoa* | Family by supporting a Pacific family to access a stable home while building a foundation for long-term housing security and future home ownership.

What we learned and how this informed our approach

Improving housing outcomes for Pacific families requires more than increasing access to housing. Evidence across housing, financial capability, and healthy homes initiatives suggests that sustainable housing outcomes are most likely when families have access to secure housing, the financial capability to sustain it, and living environments that are warm, dry, and healthy. Together, these factors contribute to improved wellbeing, reduced stress, stronger family connections, greater financial confidence, and increased confidence in planning for the future.

The independent evaluation of the Pacific Healthy Homes pilot reinforced the importance of housing quality as a contributor to wellbeing and housing stability. Participants reported that warmer, drier, and safer homes improved comfort, reduced stress, and enabled greater use of their homes for family and community connection. This highlights the role that healthy housing can play in supporting broader wellbeing outcomes for Pacific families.

Feedback from Financial Capability Programme providers consistently highlighted the importance of culturally responsive support, tailored financial planning, trusted relationships, and practical guidance in helping families build financial confidence and prepare for home ownership. Providers reported that many families entered programmes with strong aspirations for home ownership but required support to navigate lending requirements, manage debt, develop financial plans, and understand available pathways. These findings suggest that financial capability support is most effective when it combines financial education with ongoing planning, navigation, and personalised support. These findings reinforce the importance of targeted support that helps Pacific families improve housing security, strengthen financial confidence, and maintain warm, dry, and healthy homes.

Insight: Home ownership supports more than housing outcomes

Feedback from homeowners and providers indicates that housing outcomes extend beyond access to a home alone. Participants consistently linked secure housing, financial confidence, and healthier living conditions with improved wellbeing, greater stability, and increased confidence about the future.

These findings highlight the broader benefits that can accompany housing security, including stronger family and community connections, improved health and wellbeing, and greater confidence in long-term planning.

Housing access, financial capability, and housing quality initiatives are helping Pacific families achieve greater housing stability, resilience, and wellbeing over time.

Organisational foundations supporting performance and delivery

Supporting sound governance, assurance, and delivery.

This section outlines the organisational foundations that enabled effective decision-making, accountability, and delivery across the Ministry's impact areas in 2025/26.

Organisational maturity and assurance

Supporting sound governance, assurance, and delivery

Governance, risk, and assurance

Governance and assurance arrangements continued to mature during 2025/26. Oversight was provided through the Executive Leadership Team and independent Assurance, Risk and Advisory Committee, supported by internal controls, risk management, audit and parliamentary accountability processes.

The interim 2026 Performance Improvement Review recognised stronger organisational oversight, clearer accountability and more consistent performance management.

The interim 2026 Performance Improvement Review found that, following a period of significant organisational change, the Ministry had become leaner and more focused, with clearer strategic direction, stronger collective leadership, more settled governance and stronger corporate controls. It also recognised growing capability in data, insights and policy. The review concluded that the foundations established since 2023 support a period of consolidation and deepening rather than further disruptive change.

Decision-making, advice, and evidence

Data, insights and community perspectives increasingly informed planning, performance monitoring and policy advice during 2025/26. A more structured approach to evidence strengthened the quality and reliability of advice to Ministers and across government, alongside work to improve the visibility, quality and interpretation of Pacific data.

The Long-term Insights Briefing brought together lived experience, research and analysis to inform longer-term policy and strategic direction. The interim 2026 Performance Improvement Review also recognised Pacific data, research and insights as a growing organisational strength and found early evidence that closer integration of data, community intelligence and policy was strengthening advice and influence across government.

Strengthening data stewardship, privacy, and information management

Reliable, well-managed information supports effective stewardship, sound decision-making, and public trust. During 2025/26, the Ministry strengthened how data and information are governed, protected, managed, and used.

The 2026 Public Records Act audit found an overall improvement in information and records management maturity since 2021. It confirmed clearer executive ownership, established governance oversight and stronger integration of information management requirements into systems and business processes, while identifying opportunities to embed these practices more consistently.

The Protective Security Requirements self-assessment confirmed that the Ministry met baseline requirements across governance, personnel, information, and physical security. Improvements included stronger security oversight, greater visibility of the ICT environment, updated personnel security settings, and testing of business continuity and emergency communication arrangements. Privacy, information management and security awareness are also being brought together through ongoing staff guidance and training.

These capabilities provide a stronger foundation for policy advice, performance monitoring and cross-government influence grounded in reliable evidence and community intelligence.

Performance, accountability, and learning

The Ministry strengthened its approach to planning, monitoring and reporting during 2025/26, improving visibility of progress, delivery and risk.

Performance information, evaluation, stakeholder feedback and organisational reviews continued to inform improvements to programmes and organisational practice. Governance and reporting expectations for delivery partners were also strengthened to support clearer accountability and transparency.

Hikitia Project: Strengthening the foundations for evidence-informed decision-making

Effective stewardship requires reliable information, robust processes, and confidence in the evidence used to support organisational decision-making. During 2025/26, the Hikitia Project strengthened these foundations through improvements to data quality, reporting capability, business processes, and organisational information management.

Key achievements included:

- improved data quality, reporting, and access to information
- more consistent business processes, planning practices, and governance arrangements
- enhanced functionality and administration of the Kātoatoa platform
- increased staff capability through training, documentation, and knowledge sharing
- improved provider experience, operational reporting, and data collection
- stronger organisational discipline in programme delivery, risk management, and decision-making.

These improvements strengthened organisational maturity and provided a stronger foundation for programme management, performance monitoring, and service delivery, supporting better outcomes for Pacific communities.

Looking ahead

Hikitia achieved its intended objectives and established a platform for future improvement. The Ministry will continue to build its data and digital capability, strengthen organisational resilience and business processes, and improve readiness for future change, including opportunities for greater cross-agency collaboration across the public service.

Our people

Workforce wellbeing and capability

Our people are central to organisational performance and the ability to deliver for Pacific communities. This section outlines how the health, safety, wellbeing, and inclusion of the workforce are supported, and how capability is being built to meet current and future needs.

Health, safety, and wellbeing

The Ministry continued to strengthen health, safety and wellbeing systems, including incident and hazard reporting, leadership capability and governance oversight.

An independent audit of the health and safety management system identified opportunities to strengthen policies, guidance, governance and organisational capability. These findings are informing ongoing improvements.

Results from the 2025 Public Service Census indicate strong levels of staff support and engagement, with 94% of staff reporting that their manager cares about their wellbeing, 86% feeling enthusiastic about their work and 76% recommending the Ministry as a good place to work.

Inclusion, diversity, and equity

The Ministry remains committed to fostering a diverse, equitable and inclusive workplace that reflects the communities it serves and fulfils its responsibilities as a good employer. This includes strengthening workforce representation, supporting equitable employment outcomes, building cultural capability, and creating an environment where all staff feel respected, valued and able to contribute.

Key areas of focus during 2025/26 included:

- **Diversity:** The Ministry supported early-career pathways through the Tupu Tai and Whaikaha internship programmes and a Pacific Cooperation Foundation scholarship placement. Pacific and Māori cultural capability continued to be strengthened through Pacific Language Weeks, Ākona te Reo, Hiva Malie, and induction programmes including Yavu and Kapasa. Staff were also encouraged to participate in learning and development opportunities across the wider public service.
- **Equity:** The Ministry continued to strengthen fair and merit-based employment practices through remuneration monitoring, recruitment guidance, and pay equity advice at appointment. Staff were supported to broaden their skills and experience through development opportunities such as secondments and acting arrangements, while workforce data continued to inform efforts to support equitable outcomes.
- **Inclusion:** The Ministry continued to support employee-led networks, including the Women's Network, Youth Network, and Rainbow+ Network, recognising their contribution to workplace connection, development, and inclusion. Disability initiatives and accessibility practices were further promoted. The Ministry also supported Pou Tangata Moana, the Pacific Public Servants' Network, through leadership sponsorship and practical support that helped strengthen connections and professional development opportunities for Pacific public servants across the public service. Work also continued to embed the Ministry's Ō Tātou Nei through leadership development, performance processes, and the refreshed Code of Conduct.

The Ministry's Code of Conduct was updated to align with the Public Service Commission's revised Standards of Integrity and Conduct and to reinforce the values and behaviours set out in Ō Tātou Nei. The updated Code strengthens expectations for all staff to demonstrate these values in their daily work and clarifies leaders' responsibilities for fostering an inclusive and respectful workplace culture.

Who we are

Gender



Pacific representation



Pacific workforce by ethnicity (of 60)

Samoan	63.3%	38
Tongan	13.3%	8
Cook Islands Māori	6.7%	4
Fijian	6.7%	4
Rotuman	3.3%	2
Niuean	1.7%	1
Solomon Islander	1.7%	1
Tokelauan	1.7%	1
Tuvaluan	1.7%	1

Employment by type

83	2	85	1
Permanent	Fixed term	Total	Contractor / temp

On secondment (of 85 staff): 14% internal · 4% external

How we're doing

Average age	Average annual leave	Average salary	Turnover (annual)
41.7	15 days	\$135,877	13.3% unplanned
Public sector 44.8	2 people have entitlement leave over 20 days	Public sector \$103,300	10.0% planned
			Public sector benchmark (annual unplanned) 9%

Workforce composition and capability

As at 30 June 2026, 70.6% of staff identify as Pacific, reflecting the communities served and strengthening the ability to deliver culturally grounded advice and services. Women make up 68% of the workforce, above the public service benchmark. Women also hold 68.4% of Tier 2 and 3 leadership positions.

Recruitment, retention, and workforce management

Recruitment practices continue to strengthen fairness, transparency, and alignment with public service expectations. Retention is supported through inclusive leadership, professional development opportunities, and a focus on employee wellbeing and engagement.

Pay equity

Pay-gap measures remained broadly stable during 2025/26. The median gender pay gap reduced from 6.29% to 5.98%, while the median Pacific pay gap reduced from 8.44% to 6.92%. Mean pay gaps were 3.62% for gender and 2.74% for Pacific employees. As a small agency, individual appointments and departures can have a noticeable impact on pay-gap measures.

Honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi

Supporting Māori-Crown relationships

Capability to honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi and contribute to stronger Māori-Crown relationships continued to be strengthened across the Ministry's work. This supported the Ministry's role as a Crown agency and contributed to a more culturally capable public service.

This work is guided by *Tauhi Vā*, the Ministry's Te Reo Māori Plan, which supports relationships with Tangata Whenua and the appropriate use of te reo Māori and tikanga Māori across the organisation.

Strengthening capability and understanding

Learning and development opportunities, including Te Tiriti o Waitangi training, te reo Māori learning, Matariki education, and broader cultural capability programmes, supported staff and communities to better understand and apply the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

During 2025/26, two *Te Tiriti o Waitangi with a Pacific lens* workshops were delivered for Ministry staff as part of the Ministry's ongoing Te Tiriti o Waitangi training programme. These workshops were attended by 27 staff members and strengthened understanding of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and its application within a Pacific context.

Reducing our carbon footprint

Progress against our emissions reduction targets

As a Tranche 1 public sector organisation, the Ministry participates in the Carbon Neutral Government Programme (CNGP), which is designed to accelerate emissions reduction across the public sector and support a more sustainable public service.

We are committed to reducing our environmental impact through deliberate, measurable action. This includes strengthening how we measure, manage, verify, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions across our operations.

Emissions performance

The Ministry's emissions inventory is measured and independently verified with Toitū Envirocare, supporting transparent reporting and continuous improvement. In 2025/26, total gross emissions were 95.25 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO₂e). This represents a 72.5% reduction from the verified 2022/23 baseline of 346.41 (tCO₂e).

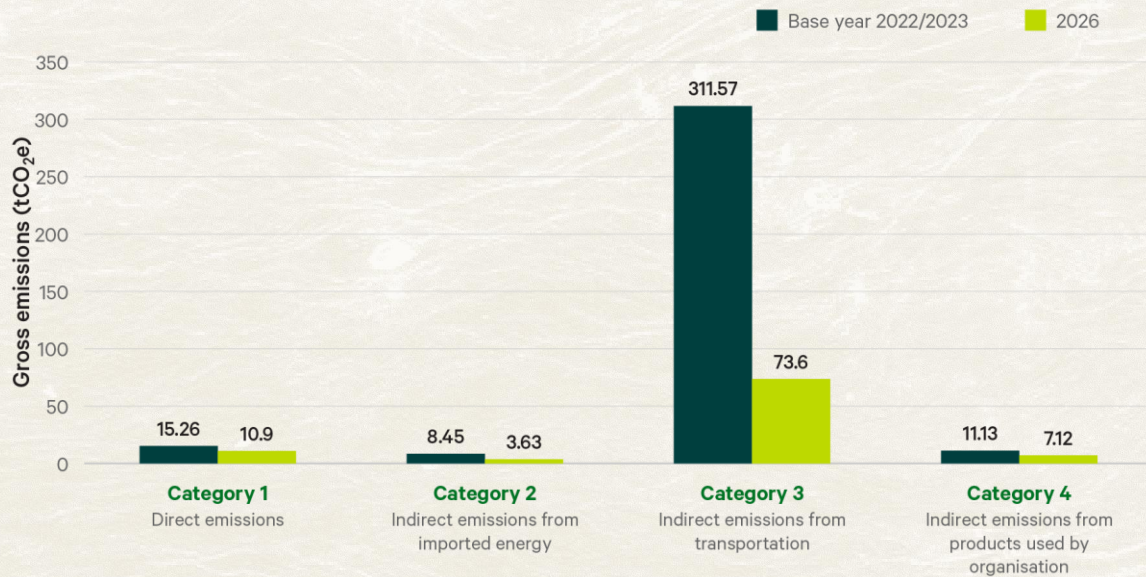
This result significantly exceeds the Ministry's emissions reduction target and places performance well ahead of the planned reduction pathway.

Reductions were achieved across the Ministry's main emissions sources, particularly:

- indirect emissions from imported energy (Scope 2)
- indirect emissions from transportation (Scope 3).

These results reflect stronger emissions controls, more disciplined operating practices, and continued focus on reducing avoidable emissions.

Comparison of gross emissions (tCO₂e) by category



Comparison of gross emissions (tCO₂e) by category

Emissions profile (tCO₂e)

Category (ISO 14064-1:2018)	Scope (ISO 14064-1:2006)	Tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO ₂ e)				
		2022/23 (baseline year – verified)	2024/25 (verified)	2025/26 (verified)	by 30 June 2025 (target 21% below baseline)	by 30 June 2030 (target 42% below baseline)
Category 1: Direct emissions	Scope 1	15.26	8.32	10.90	12.06	8.85
Category 2: Indirect emissions from imported energy ³	Scope 2	8.45	9.76	3.63	6.67	4.90
Category 3: Indirect emissions from transportation	Scope 3	311.57	70.39	73.60	246.14	180.71
Category 4: Indirect emissions from products used by organisation		11.13	3.02	7.12	8.79	6.46
Category 5: Indirect emissions associated with the use of products from the organisation		0	0	0	0	0
Category 6: Indirect emissions from other sources		0	0	0	0	0
Total direct emissions (Category 1)		15.26	8.32	10.90	12.06	8.85
Total indirect emissions (Category 2–6)		331.15	83.17	84.34	261.61	192.07
Total gross emissions (Category 1–6)		346.41	91.49	95.25	273.67	200.92

³ Emissions are reported using a location-based methodology.

Drivers of change

The reduction in emissions reflects both deliberate emissions management and changes in organisational activity. Key drivers include:

- reduced staff travel and more targeted travel decision-making
- lower organisational headcount following structural changes
- improved energy efficiency in office operations
- increased organisational awareness and accountability for emissions.

While some reductions reflect changes in organisational size and activity, sustaining this performance will depend on maintaining the systems, behaviours, and decision-making practices that support lower emissions over time.

Approach and targets

The Ministry is certified as a Toitū carbon reduce organisation, confirming that emissions are measured, managed, and reduced in line with ISO 14064-1:2018. The certification scheme is accredited under ISO 14065.

Emissions reporting aligns with [Carbon Neutral Government Programme \(CNGP\) Guidance](#) on reporting, target setting, and emissions reduction planning, supporting consistency with national greenhouse gas reporting methods and frameworks.

Through the CNGP, the Ministry contributes to Aotearoa New Zealand's broader commitment under the Paris Agreement to limit global temperature rise to 1.5°C.

Key emissions sources and management

Business travel

Business travel was the Ministry's largest source of emissions in 2022/23, accounting for approximately 90% of total emissions, and remains a key area of focus for emissions reduction efforts.

Travel emissions are managed through strengthened governance, monitoring, and reporting processes that support transparent and accountable travel-related decision-making. Key controls include monthly monitoring of travel emissions and compliance with the Ministry's travel policy.

The Ministry continues to focus on reducing emissions associated with air travel, accommodation, and rental vehicles. Where practical and appropriate, lower-emissions alternatives, such as virtual engagement and remote collaboration, are used to reduce the need for travel while maintaining effective service delivery.

These measures support the Ministry's commitment to reducing its environmental impact and progressing towards its emissions reduction objectives.

Fleet management

All fleet vehicles are now fitted with GPS functionality to support better utilisation, monitoring, and efficiency.

The Ministry is progressing a transition toward lower-emissions vehicles, including hybrid and electric options where these are operationally appropriate. Implementation has been slower than expected due to organisational changes during 2023/24, but fleet transition remains an active priority.

Looking ahead

Consolidating progress and strengthening impact

In 2026/27, the Ministry will consolidate and deepen the changes made in recent years, with a continued focus on quality, impact and system influence. There are three key strategic priorities for the year.

Strengthening core enabling functions

The Ministry will strengthen how Pacific community relationships, regional intelligence, data and insights are used to inform advice, investment and delivery. This includes moving towards more sustained and purposeful relationships with Pacific communities and partners, improving how community insights are captured and reflected in decisions, and strengthening the quality and use of Pacific data across priority areas.

Providing system leadership

The Ministry will continue to strengthen its role as the Government's principal source of Pacific advice and system leadership. Priorities include a more proactive and evidence-based policy agenda, earlier identification of emerging issues and opportunities, stronger Pacific influence in government policy and investment decisions, and continued support for agencies to improve Pacific policy and engagement capability.

Gearing the Ministry for performance

The Ministry will continue to strengthen the people, systems and organisational capability needed for efficient and credible delivery. This includes implementing a clearer workforce and capability approach, improving commissioning and financial oversight, strengthening Machinery of Government and ministerial servicing capability, streamlining business processes, and progressing digital and AI capability. Across these priorities, delivery will be supported by clearer accountabilities, stronger performance monitoring and better use of evidence to understand progress, risks and results.

Statements

Accountability and performance statements.

Statement of Responsibility

As Secretary for Pacific Peoples and Chief Executive of the Ministry for Pacific Peoples, I am responsible for:

- the preparation of the Ministry's financial statements, statement of performance, and statements of expenses and capital expenditure, and for the judgements expressed in them
- having in place a system of internal control designed to provide reasonable assurance as to the integrity and reliability of financial reporting
- ensuring that end-of-year performance information on each appropriation administered by the Ministry is provided in accordance with sections 19A to 19C of the Public Finance Act 1989, whether or not that information is included in this annual report
- the accuracy of any end-of-year performance information prepared by the Ministry, whether or not that information is included in this annual report.

In my opinion the:

- financial statements fairly reflect the financial position of the Ministry as at 30 June 2026 and its operations for the year ended on that date
- statement of performance fairly reflects the Ministry's service performance for the year ended 30 June 2026
- forecast financial statements fairly reflect the forecast financial position of the Ministry as at 30 June 2027 and its operations for the year ending on that date.



A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Gerardine Clifford-Lidstone'.

Gerardine Clifford-Lidstone
Secretary for Pacific Peoples
Chief Executive, Ministry for Pacific Peoples

28 September 2026

Independent Auditor's Report



Independent Auditor's Report

To the readers of Ministry for Pacific Peoples annual report for the year ended 30 June 2026

The Auditor-General is the auditor of Ministry for Pacific Peoples (the Department). The Auditor-General has appointed me, Ed Loudon, using the staff and resources of KPMG, to carry out the audit of the information required to be audited on his behalf.

Opinion

We have audited:

- The annual financial statements of the Department that comprise the statement of financial position, statement of commitments, and statement of contingent assets and contingent liabilities as at 30 June 2026, the statement of comprehensive revenue and expenses, statement of changes in equity, and statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date, and the notes to the financial statements that include accounting policies and other explanatory information on pages 103 to 120.
- The end-of-year performance information for appropriations of the Department for the year ended 30 June 2026 on pages 33 to 35, 67 to 70, 92 to 102.
- The statements of expenses and capital expenditure of the Department for the year ended 30 June 2026 on pages 121 to 123.
- The schedules of non-departmental activities managed by the Department on behalf of the Crown, that comprises the schedules of assets, liabilities, commitments, contingent assets, and contingent liabilities as at 30 June 2026, the schedules of expenses and revenue for the year ended 30 June 2026, and the notes to the schedules that include accounting policies and other explanatory information on pages 124 to 126.

In our opinion:

- The annual financial statements of the Department present fairly, in all material respects, its financial position as at 30 June 2026, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Reporting Standards.

- The end-of-year performance information for each appropriation for the year ended 30 June 2026 is appropriate and meaningful and prepared in accordance with the Department's measurement bases or evaluation methods and generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Reporting Standards, and presents fairly, in all material respects:
 - what has been achieved with the appropriation; and
 - the actual expenses or capital expenditure incurred in relation to the appropriation as compared with the expenses or capital expenditure that were appropriated or forecast to be incurred.
- The statements of expenses and capital expenditure have been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the requirements of section 45A of the Public Finance Act 1989.
- The schedules of non-departmental activities which are managed by the Department on behalf of the Crown have been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the Treasury Instructions.

Basis for our opinion

We carried out our audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Professional and Ethical Standards, the International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand), and New Zealand Auditing Standard 1 (Revised): *The Audit of Service Performance Information* issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Responsibilities of the auditor for the information to be audited* section of our report.

We have fulfilled our responsibilities in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of the Chief Executive for the information to be audited

The Chief Executive is responsible on behalf of the Department for preparing annual financial statements and end-of-year performance information for appropriations that are fairly presented and comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Reporting Standards and legislative requirements.

This includes:

- the selection of elements/aspects of service performance, performance measures and/or descriptions, and measurement bases or evaluation methods to enable the presentation of end of year performance information for an appropriation that is appropriate and meaningful; and
- the preparation of end-of-year performance information for an appropriation in accordance with the Department's measurement bases or evaluation methods and generally accepted accounting

practice in New Zealand in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Reporting Standards and legislative requirements.

The Chief Executive is responsible on behalf of the Department for preparing Statements of expenses and capital expenditure, schedules of non-departmental activities managed by the Department on behalf of the Crown.

The Chief Executive is responsible for such internal control as is determined is necessary to enable the preparation of the information to be audited that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the information to be audited, the Chief Executive is responsible on behalf of the Department for assessing the Department's ability to continue as a going concern. The Chief Executive is also responsible for disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting, unless there is an intention to merge or to terminate the activities of the Department, or there is no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Chief Executive's responsibilities arise from the Public Finance Act 1989.

Responsibilities of the auditor for the information to be audited

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the information we audited, as a whole, is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit carried out in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements are differences or omissions of amounts or disclosures, and can arise from fraud or error. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of readers, taken on the basis of the information we audited.

For the budget information reported in the information we audit, our procedures are limited to checking that the information agrees to the Estimates of Appropriations for the Government of New Zealand for the Year Ending 30 June 2026. For performance information for appropriations, we agree any changes from the performance measures and standards in the Estimates to the Supplementary Estimates. For the forecast financial information for the year ending 30 June 2027, our procedures are limited to checking to the best estimate financial forecast information based on the Budget Economic Fiscal Update for the year ending 30 June 2027.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. Also:

- We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the information we audited, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one

resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- We obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Department's internal control.
- We evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Chief Executive.
- In respect of the end-of-year performance information for appropriations, we:
 - obtain an understanding of the process applied by the Department to select its elements/aspects of service performance, performance measures and/or descriptions and the measurement bases or evaluation methods and evaluate whether these present an appropriate and meaningful assessment of the Department's service performance.
 - evaluate whether the end-of-year performance information for appropriations is prepared in accordance with the Department's measurement bases or evaluation methods, in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Reporting Standards.
- We evaluate whether the statements of expenses and capital expenditure, and schedules of non-departmental activities have been prepared in accordance with legislative requirements.
- We conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting by the Chief Executive and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Department's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the information we audited or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Department to cease to continue as a going concern.
- We evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the information we audited, including the disclosures, and whether the information we audited represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Chief Executive regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Our responsibilities arise from the Public Audit Act 2001.

Other information

The Chief Executive is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises all of the information included in the annual report other than the information we audited and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the information we audited does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of audit opinion or assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information. In doing so, we consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the information we audited or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on our work, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Independence

We are independent of the Department in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the independence requirements of Professional and Ethical Standard 1: *International Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners (including International Independence Standards) (New Zealand)* as applicable for audits of public interest entities issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

Other than in our capacity as auditor, we have no relationship with, or interests, in the Department.



Ed Loudon
KPMG
On behalf of the Auditor-General
Wellington, New Zealand
28 September 2026

Disclosure Statements

Nature of operations

The Ministry for Pacific Peoples (the Ministry) is the Crown's principal advisor on policies and interventions to improve outcomes for Pacific peoples in Aotearoa New Zealand. The Ministry works across government to influence policy, investment, and service delivery. Its operations are administered under Vote Pacific Peoples.

Statement of accounting policies

The Ministry is a government department as defined by section 5 of the Public Service Act 2020 and operates under both the Public Finance Act 1989 (PFA) and the Public Service Act 2020. Its ultimate parent is the New Zealand Crown.

It is designated as a Public Benefit Entity (PBE) for the purposes of complying with New Zealand Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (NZ GAAP).

This Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2026 has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the PFA. The financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026 were approved for issue by the Chief Executive of the Ministry for Pacific Peoples on 28 September 2026.

The Ministry also reports on non-departmental financial schedules, presenting financial information on public funds administered on behalf of the Crown.

Statement of compliance

The Financial Statements, unaudited Forecast Financial Statements, Statements of Service Performance, and Non-Departmental Financial Schedules have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the PFA and comply with:

- New Zealand Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (NZ GAAP)
- Treasury Instructions and Circulars
- Tier 1 PBE Accounting Standards.

Performance information has been prepared in accordance with Tier 1 PBE reporting standards and applied consistently throughout the report.

Measurement and recognition policies applied in the Non-Departmental Financial Schedules are consistent with NZ GAAP and Crown accounting policies, as set out in the Financial Statements of the Government.

Service performance

Service performance information is presented in the following sections of the Annual Report:

- Statements of Performance – page 92
- Report on appropriations – page 121
- Non-departmental appropriations – page 124.

The service performance information identified above has been prepared in accordance with PBE FRS 48 Service Performance Reporting and forms part of the information audited by the Auditor-General.

Judgements and assumptions

Judgement has been applied in selecting, measuring, aggregating, and presenting service performance information to ensure it provides a meaningful representation of the Ministry's performance.

In preparing performance information, the Ministry has used a combination of administrative data, provider-reported information, stakeholder survey results, independent evaluations, and case studies. Judgement has also been applied in determining the most appropriate level of aggregation for reporting results and in assessing the evidence used to demonstrate progress and achievement.

Performance measures have been selected for each appropriation under Vote Pacific Peoples to reflect the outcomes and impacts the Ministry seeks to influence and the services delivered through those appropriations.

Case study methodology

Case studies follow a consistent and documented methodology to ensure they are representative, evidence-based, and auditable. Eligible case studies are assessed against predetermined selection criteria, with eligibility decisions and exclusions documented to support transparency and consistency. A random selection process is then used to identify case studies for inclusion in the Annual Report.

Case studies are supported by documented evidence and subject to internal quality assurance processes to verify the completeness, accuracy, and appropriateness of reported information.

Case studies complement quantitative performance measures and provide a more complete understanding of how the Ministry contributes to improved outcomes for Pacific peoples. They are intended to illustrate the practical application of programmes, services, and initiatives and the outcomes experienced by communities and stakeholders.

Ministerial satisfaction and policy quality

The Ministry uses the Ministerial Satisfaction Survey developed by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) to assess satisfaction with policy advice and services. It also applies DPMC's Policy Quality Framework to assess the quality of written policy advice.

Performance measure changes

A review of departmental and non-departmental performance measures was completed through the 2025/26 Supplementary Estimates process to strengthen auditability, improve clarity and transparency, and provide a stronger focus on outcomes.

Changes included the introduction of auditable case studies to support qualitative performance reporting, improvements to survey-based measures to strengthen comparability and auditability, refinements to existing measures and reporting requirements, the introduction of new measures in priority areas, and the removal of measures that were no longer appropriate or required.

The Financial Capability Programme non-financial performance measures were presented as non-departmental measures in the Estimates of Appropriations 2025/26 and Supplementary Estimates of Appropriations 2025/26. During 2025/26, departmental funding was reprioritised to continue delivery of the programme following the expiry of the original non-departmental funding. Consequently, the programme's non-financial performance measures are reported as departmental measures in this Annual Report.

Changes to departmental appropriations included:

- introduction of auditable case studies and qualitative indicators to support outcome-focused performance reporting
- introduction of new measures covering Pacific Healthy Homes, Pacific language broadcasting and engagement, Pacific language resources, community wellbeing, policy advice quality, and the Financial Capability Programme
- changes to survey-based measures to report percentage-based results rather than average satisfaction scores
- wording amendments to improve clarity, consistency, transparency, and auditability
- revisions to selected performance standards and targets to better reflect programme delivery expectations and available evidence
- removal of measures that were no longer considered suitable for ongoing performance reporting.

Changes to non-departmental appropriations included:

- introduction of new measures relating to business advisory services, employment and training outcomes, Pacific language course completions, homeowner wellbeing, and housing outcomes
- introduction of auditable case studies to demonstrate business capability and growth, progression towards home ownership, and improved housing outcomes for Pacific families
- revisions to existing performance measures and targets to reflect updated delivery forecasts, programme priorities, and reporting requirements
- removal of measures that were no longer required.

Aggregation of measures

The Housing Pacific Families (MYA) measure, “Collaborate to have affordable, fit-for-purpose homes built for Pacific families”, aggregates results from two initiatives:

- Improving Housing for Pacific Families and Communities (Pacific Building Affordable Homes)
- Building Homes for Pacific in Porirua (Our Whare Our Fare).

Stakeholder survey methodology

In 2024/25, stakeholder surveys were introduced to better understand stakeholder experiences and perspectives. In 2025/26, the reporting metric was revised from an average score to a percentage-based measure to improve interpretability and align with PBE FRS 48 qualitative characteristics, including understandability and faithful representation. Where possible, 2024/25 results have been recalculated using the revised methodology.

No prior-year comparative has been presented for the measure Government agencies report policy and engagement capability services meet their needs because the survey question used to calculate the measure was not included in the 2024/25 survey.

The measure ‘Satisfaction of government agencies with the Ministry’s policy advice services’ expired in 2025/26. The survey respondent group could not be consistently identified or replicated across reporting periods, limiting comparability and auditability. As a result, the measure no longer met requirements for ongoing performance reporting and was discontinued.

The 2024/25 result for the measure 'Stakeholders report that the Ministry delivers value through its work and services' has been recalculated to exclude the expired measure, ensuring comparability with the 2025/26 result.

Data completeness

Pacific Language Community Fund and Pacific Language Weeks

The reported result is based on 129 project reports received by the reporting date. Of these, 125 reports identified positive health and/or wellbeing impacts for participants. Twenty-one project reports remained outstanding at the time of reporting and were not included in the assessment. Based on the reports received, 96.9% of projects reported positive health and/or wellbeing impacts for participants, exceeding the performance standard of 70%.

Financial Capability Programme

2025/26 was the first year of a new procurement and contracting cycle. Programme delivery and reporting were affected by provider onboarding, the implementation of Kātoatoa, the Ministry's integrated grants, financial management, and customer relationship management system, and changes to participant consent and data collection requirements.

Performance reporting draws on both quantitative and qualitative information. Qualitative information provided by delivery partners has been used to undertake thematic analysis and inform the case studies presented throughout this Annual Report.

Home ownership outcomes often occur over multiple years, with many households continuing to receive support beyond the reporting period. As a result, some programme outcomes may not be realised or reflected in performance results until future years.

Statement of Performance

This section summarises performance against the financial and non-financial measures set out in the 2025/26 Estimates of Appropriations and Supplementary Estimates of Appropriations for Vote Pacific Peoples.

KPMG New Zealand audits our year-end performance results, on behalf of the Auditor-General. This audit is conducted in accordance with the *Public Finance Act 1989*, the *Public Audit Act 2001*, and other relevant legislative and administrative requirements.

The Statement of Performance covers two appropriations to deliver services provided to the government and the New Zealand public: one Capital Expenditure appropriation and one Multi-Category Appropriation (MCA).

Summary of performance

Performance across the Ministry's appropriations was largely achieved in 2025/26. Results demonstrated strong performance in ministerial servicing, stakeholder engagement, Pacific policy and engagement capability, policy advice, and Pacific language initiatives. Capital expenditure was delivered in accordance with the Ministry's capital expenditure plan, and Pacific Healthy Homes achieved its performance target. Financial capability services delivered mixed results. Performance reporting is supported by quantitative measures, qualitative indicators, an independent evaluation, stakeholder feedback, and case studies that demonstrate the Ministry's contribution to improved outcomes for Pacific peoples.

Departmental Capital Expenditure and Capital Injections

Ministry for Pacific Peoples – Capital Expenditure Plan

This appropriation is limited to the purchase or development of assets by and for the use of the Ministry for Pacific Peoples, as authorised by section 24(1) of the Public Finance Act 1989.

Financial performance (GST exclusive, \$000)

Item	Actual 2024/25	Estimates 2025/26	Supp. Estimates 2025/26	Actual 2025/26	Forecast 2026/27
Property, plant, and equipment	8	127	127	46	127
Total expenses	8	127	127	46	127

Non-financial performance

Measure	Target (2025/26)	Actual (2025/26)	2024/25
Expenditure is in accordance with the Ministry's capital expenditure plan (see note 1)	100%	100%	100%

Note 1: The Ministry's planned capital expenditure relates to business-as-usual information technology replacement.

Multi-category expenses

Policy Advice and Ministerial Servicing (M50) (A13)

The single overarching purpose of this appropriation is to provide support to Ministers in discharging their policy decision-making and other portfolio responsibilities in relation to improving outcomes for Pacific peoples in New Zealand.

This appropriation consists of two categories of spending within a single appropriation. These are:

- **Communications, Projects, and Relationships.** This category is limited to ministerial servicing, nominations services, the development, implementation and monitoring of innovative projects and the establishment and maintenance of relationships with Pacific communities and key stakeholders, to improve outcomes for Pacific peoples in New Zealand
- **Policy Advice.** This category is limited to the provision of advice (including second opinion advice and contributions to policy advice led by other agencies) to support decision-making by Ministers on government policy matters.

These appropriations form a structure that offers a degree of flexibility to the funding of various activities, with a focus on achieving specific results. The expenditure in a multi-category appropriation must all contribute to a single overarching purpose.

Financial performance (GST exclusive, \$000)

Total revenue in 2025/26 was \$28.41 million, entirely sourced from the Crown. Total expenses were \$27.40 million, resulting in an operating surplus of \$1.01 million. Expenditure reflects the delivery of communications, projects, relationships, and policy advice services.

Item	Actual 2024/25	Unaudited Estimates 2025/26	Unaudited Supp. estimates 2025/26	Actual 2025/26	Unaudited Forecast 2026/27
Departmental output expenses					
Revenue from Crown					
Communications, projects, and relationships	24,588	26,307	26,307	25,077	26,307
Policy advice	4,700	2,100	2,100	3,330	2,100
Revenue from other					
Communication, projects, and relationships	0	0	0	0	0
Policy Advice					
Total revenue	29,288	28,407	28,407	28,407	28,407
Total expense	29,283	28,407	28,407	27,402	28,407
Net surplus/(deficit)	5	0	0	1,005	0

Non-financial performance – Communications, Projects, and Relationships

The Ministry maintained strong engagement with Pacific communities, government agencies, and stakeholders while delivering services and initiatives that supported improved outcomes for Pacific peoples in 2025/26. Results demonstrated strong performance across stakeholder trust and confidence, community engagement, Pacific policy and engagement capability, ministerial servicing, nominations, and Pacific language initiatives. Targets were also achieved for Pacific Healthy Homes, while financial capability services produced mixed results. Performance is supported by quantitative measures, qualitative indicators, independent evaluation, stakeholder feedback, and case study evidence.

Operational excellence

The Ministry delivers a range of services to support improved outcomes for Pacific peoples.

Performance summary

Stakeholder trust, confidence, and perceptions of the value of the Ministry's work exceeded target levels in 2025/26 and improved on the previous year. These results reflect positive stakeholder experiences and confidence in the Ministry's services and engagement.

Measures	Target (2025/26)	Actual (2025/26)	2024/25
Pacific stakeholders report trust and confidence in the Ministry (see note 1 and 2)	At least 65%	71.90%	67.39%
Stakeholders report that the Ministry delivers value through its work and services (see note 3)	At least 65%	81.19%	N/A

Note 1: This measure is assessed through a stakeholder survey administered by the Ministry for Pacific Peoples. Responses are collected using a five-point Likert scale (1 = strongly disagree to 5 = strongly agree), with an “Unsure/Don’t know” option. Results are reported as the percentage of valid responses selecting “agree” or “strongly agree” (4 or 5). Neutral responses (3) and “Unsure/Don’t know” responses are excluded.

Note 2: Results are based on 64 valid stakeholders’ survey responses. Of these respondents, 71.9% reported trust and confidence in the Ministry.

Note 3: This is the aggregated score of all the Ministry's stakeholder satisfaction surveys, including:

- Ministerial satisfaction per the common satisfaction survey
- Ministerial quality of policy advice survey
- Policy and engagement capability services survey
- Trust and confidence stakeholder survey.

Aggregation is calculated using a weighted average based on the number of valid responses in each survey to ensure proportional representation. The same scale and inclusion rule applies across all surveys.

The 2024/25 result for the measure has been recalculated to exclude the discontinued measure ‘Satisfaction of government agencies with the Ministry's policy advice services’. This ensures comparability with the 2025/26 result.

Building and maintaining relationships with Pacific communities and key stakeholders

The voices of Pacific communities are reflected in government policy and decision-making, and Pacific communities engage more effectively with government.

Performance summary

Performance for building and maintaining relationships with Pacific communities and key stakeholders was achieved in 2025/26. The Ministry supported 109 public events during the year, exceeding the target of at least 50 events and demonstrating continued engagement with Pacific communities and stakeholders.

Measure	Target (2025/26)	Actual (2025/26)	2024/25
Public events that are Ministry-supported (see note 1)	At least 50	109	114

Note 1 : This includes public events where the Ministry provides funding or support.

Indicators	Target (2025/26)	Actual (2025/26)	Summary of evidence
Influence on policies and/or programmes	Achieved		Case study evidence demonstrates how Pacific perspectives and community insights informed government decision-making and contributed to the design or implementation of policies and programmes affecting Pacific peoples (see Annual Report, p. 33 - 34).
Connection to government services	Achieved		Case study evidence demonstrates how the Ministry helped connect Pacific peoples with government-supported services, programmes, and opportunities, improving access to support and pathways that contribute to improved outcomes (see Annual Report, p. 35).

Methodology and assurance

Each qualitative indicator is supported by a structured case study prepared annually that demonstrates how engagement with Pacific communities has contributed to:

- influencing policies and/or programmes
- improving connections between Pacific communities and government services.

Case studies follow a documented methodology, including:

- the selection of representative examples
- systematic evidence collection
- application of internal quality assurance processes.

This ensures the information is consistent, evidence-based, and auditable, supporting transparent assessment of performance against each indicator.

Strengthening government Pacific policy and engagement capability through Kapasa and Yavu

We influence outcomes through building capability in Pacific engagement and policy-making across government.

Performance summary

Performance for strengthening government Pacific policy and engagement capability was achieved in 2025/26. Kapasa and Yavu capability-building programmes strengthened Pacific policy and engagement practice across agencies. Delivery exceeded target and reflected growing demand for Pacific policy and engagement capability across government.

Feedback from participating agencies indicates these services are delivering value, exceeding the performance target. Agencies reported stronger capability to incorporate Pacific perspectives into policy development, engagement, and decision-making, contributing to a more responsive public sector and better outcomes for Pacific peoples.

Measures	Target (2025/26)	Actual (2025/26)	2024/25
Government staff trained in Pacific policy and engagement tools (see note 1)	Minimum 48 workshops or 500 participants	49 workshops, 1031 participants	25 workshops 629 participants
Government agencies report policy and engagement capability services meet their needs (see note 2)	At least 70%	92.3%	N/A

Note 1: This measure counts the number of government agency staff (local and central) trained in Kapasa and Yavu. These tools build capability in Pacific engagement and support the consideration of Pacific perspectives and priorities in policy-making. Two delivery options (workshops or participant numbers) provide flexibility to account for variations in attendance.

Note 2: This measure is assessed through a stakeholder survey administered by the Ministry for Pacific Peoples. Responses are collected using a five-point Likert scale (1 = strongly disagree to 5 = strongly agree), with an "Unsure/Don't know" option. Results are reported as the percentage of valid responses selecting "agree" or "strongly agree" (4 or 5). Neutral responses (3) and "Unsure/Don't know" responses are excluded.

The result is based on 13 valid government agency survey responses, of which 92.3% reported that policy and engagement capability services met their needs.

No prior-year comparative has been presented because the survey question used to calculate this measure was not included in the 2024/25 survey. A comparable prior-year result cannot therefore be provided.

Ministerial servicing

We provide ministerial services that support the Minister in responding to the needs and priorities of Pacific communities by strengthening capability in Pacific engagement and policy-making across government.

Performance summary

Performance for Ministerial servicing was achieved in 2025/26. The Ministry maintained high levels of timeliness and Ministerial satisfaction across all service areas. All briefings, Ministerial Official Information Act (OIA) requests, and select committee questions were delivered within required timeframes, while written parliamentary questions achieved 99.34% timeliness. Ministerial satisfaction remained above target across all measures, with satisfaction ratings of 4 or 5 out of 5.

These results demonstrate the Ministry's ability to provide timely, high-quality support that enables informed ministerial decision-making and supports the Minister's parliamentary and statutory responsibilities.

Timeliness of official correspondence

Measures	Target (2025/26)	Actual (2025/26)	2024/25
Requests completed within relevant specific or statutory timeframes (see note 1):			
Briefings	95 – 100%	100%	100%
Ministerial Official Information Act 1982		100%	100%
Written Parliamentary Questions		99.34%	100%
Select Committee Questions		100%	100%

Note 1: The measure and supporting note have been strengthened by removing redundant wording and ensuring both Select Committees are referenced. Timeframes for these measures vary by request type:

- Briefings: Timeframes are set on a case-by-case basis.
- Official Information Act requests: Delivery to the Minister follows an agreed timeframe that enables a response within 20 working days.
- Written Parliamentary Questions: The Ministry provides advice to the Minister within four working days. The parliamentary response deadline is six working days.
- Select Committee Questions: Timeframes are set by the Finance and Expenditure Committee and the Social Services and Community Committee, and may vary on a case-by-case basis depending on each Committee's requirements.

Ministerial common satisfaction survey

Measures	Target (2025/26)	Actual (2025/26)	2024/25
Satisfaction of the Minister for Pacific Peoples, on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is not satisfied at all, and 5 is very satisfied:			
Briefings	At least 3/5	4	4
Ministerial Official Information Act 1982 requests		5	5
Written Parliamentary Questions		4	5
Select Committee Questions		4	4

Nomination services

Recognising Pacific leaders by supporting nominations for State Sector Boards and putting forward King's Birthday and New Year honour nominees.

Performance summary

Performance for nomination services was achieved in 2025/26. The Ministry continued to support the recognition of Pacific leaders through nominations to governance positions and national honours. Results exceeded targets across both measures, contributing to increased visibility of Pacific leadership and broader representation of Pacific peoples in leadership roles across Aotearoa New Zealand.

Measures	Target (2025/26)	Actual (2025/26)	2024/25
Nominees put forward by the Ministry for governance positions across the state sector (see note 1)	At least 10	24	19
Nominees put forward for King's Birthday and New Year honours	At least 10	34	11

Note 1: This measure was strengthened by removing redundant wording.

Innovative projects – Healthier homes for Pacific families

The Ministry works with other government agencies and providers, including Pacific providers, to build on existing programmes helping to create healthier homes for more Pacific peoples.

Performance summary

Performance for Pacific Healthy Homes was achieved in 2025/26. This new measure focuses on improving housing quality and supporting better housing-related health outcomes for Pacific households. Case study evidence indicates that participating households experienced improvements in housing quality and related health outcomes, demonstrating the positive impact of the interventions delivered during the year.

Early results indicate that interventions are improving housing quality and supporting better health outcomes.

Measure	Target (2025/26)	Actual (2025/26)	2024/25
Households that received Pacific Healthy Homes interventions (see note 1)	200	201	—

Note 1: This is a new measure introduced in 2025/26. No comparative results are available for prior years.

Indicator	Target (2025/26)	Actual (2025/26)	Summary of evidence
Improved housing quality and housing-related health outcomes for participating households.	Achieved		Case study evidence confirms improved housing quality and related health outcomes for participating households (see Annual Report, p. 67).

Methodology and assurance

This indicator is supported by an annually prepared case study that demonstrates how housing interventions contribute to improved housing quality and health outcomes for participating households. The case study follows a documented methodology, including:

- selection of representative households
- systematic collection of evidence on housing conditions and health outcomes
- application of internal quality assurance processes.

This ensures the information is consistent, evidence-based, and auditable, supporting transparent assessment of performance against the indicator.

Innovative projects – Strengthening Pacific languages

We are committed to promoting and protecting Pacific languages in New Zealand by increasing their public use and engagement.

Performance summary

Performance for strengthening Pacific languages was achieved in 2025/26. The Ministry continued to promote and protect Pacific languages through Pacific Language Weeks, community language initiatives, language learning opportunities, broadcasting, and investment in Pacific language resources. All measures met or exceeded target, demonstrating strong engagement with Pacific languages and positive contributions to cultural identity, participation, health, and community wellbeing.

Measures	Target (2025/26)	Actual (2025/26)	2024/25
Pacific language broadcasting hours (see note 1)	At least 7,000	7,332	7,332
Listeners on Pacific Media Networks 531pi station (see note 2)	At least 300,000	327,806	—
Social media interactions with Pacific Language Week social media posts (see note 3)	At least 120,000	271,566	186,169
Engagement rate with Pacific Language Week social media posts (see note 4)	At least 3.5%	3.58%	4.8%
New written, visual, and/or Pacific Language resources funded by the Ministry (see note 2)	At least 200	266	—
Community language projects improved participants' health and/or wellbeing (see note 5 and 6)	At least 70%	96.9%	—

Note 1: Pacific language broadcasting hours from Ministry-supported broadcasting agencies.

Note 2: New measure.

Note 3: Total number of likes, comments, and shares on Pacific Language Week social media content.

Note 4: Engagement rate is the proportion of interactions (likes, comments, shares) relative to total impressions, expressed as a percentage.

Note 5: A new measure. Community groups funded through Pacific Language Weeks and the Pacific Languages Community Fund assess the impact of their initiatives using six wellbeing-related statements rated on a Likert scale. A positive impact is defined as agreement (or strong agreement) with at least three statements. Results are aggregated to determine whether at least 70% of groups report a positive impact.

Note 6: The reported result is based on 129 project reports received by the reporting date. Of these, 125 reported positive health and/or wellbeing impacts for participants. Twenty-one project reports were outstanding at the time of reporting and have not been included in the result.

Innovative projects – Financial capability and home ownership readiness

Supporting Pacific peoples to strengthen financial capability and prepare for home ownership.

Performance summary

Performance for financial capability services was mixed in 2025/26. Strong results were achieved for home ownership planning and financial planning, while the target for Financial Capability Programme completions was not achieved. Case study evidence demonstrates how financial mentoring, planning, and tailored support helped participants strengthen financial capability, improve financial readiness, and progress towards home ownership.

Measures	Target (2025/26)	Actual (2025/26)	2024/25
Pacific peoples who completed the Financial Capability programme (see note 1)	At least 1,500	1,313	674
Pacific peoples who developed a home ownership plan with support from the Financial Capability programme (see note 2)	At least 200	478	266
Participants developed a financial plan with short and/or long term goals (see note 3)	At least 80%	100%	—

Note 1: The target has increased from 494 to at least 1,500 completions due to reprioritised funding, which has increased programme delivery levels. Participant volumes were lower than anticipated as several providers delivered more intensive one-to-one financial capability support than originally forecast.

Note 2: The target has increased from 174 to at least 200 due to reprioritised funding to support households to develop home ownership plans.

Note 3: This is a new measure.

Indicator	Target (2025/26)	Actual (2025/26)	Summary of evidence
Progression to home ownership	Achieved		A case study shows how households participating in the Financial Capability Programme are progressing towards home ownership (Annual Report, p. 68 - 70).

Methodology and assurance

A structured case study supports this indicator, showing how households participating in the Financial Capability Programme demonstrate progression towards home ownership.

The case study draws on provider-entered data from the Ministry's Customer Relationship Management system as the primary evidence base. Providers retain original source documents, and the Ministry verifies evidence through sampling and internal quality assurance.

"Progression towards home ownership" includes verified steps taken by households to advance their home ownership pathway, such as completing key programme milestones, meeting eligibility requirements, engaging with lenders, and improving financial readiness.

Policy advice

Quality of policy advice

Through collaboration across government and ministerial policy advice we influence outcomes for Pacific peoples.

Performance summary

Performance for the quality of policy advice was achieved in 2025/26. Ministerial satisfaction with the Ministry's policy advice remained above target, and independent quality assessments met or exceeded all performance standards. These results demonstrate the Ministry's continued focus on providing high-quality, evidence-informed advice that supports ministerial decision-making and outcomes for Pacific peoples.

Ministerial survey

Measure	Target (2025/26)	Actual (2025/26)	2024/25
Satisfaction of the Minister for Pacific Peoples with the Ministry's policy advice service (see note 1)	At least 3.5/5	3.70	4.93

Note 1: The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's Ministerial Policy Satisfaction Survey is used to assess ministerial satisfaction with the Ministry's policy advice.

Independent quality assessment

Measures	Target (2025/26)	Actual (2025/26)	2024/25
Quality of policy advice papers assessed (see note 1):			
Average score	At least 3.5/5	3.5	3.5
Quality rating of policy advice (distribution of scores), as per the Policy Quality Framework	20% of assessed papers score 4/5 or higher	30%	20%
Percentage that scores 3 or higher out of 5	At least 90%	100%	100%

Note 1: This indicator provides a standardised score for the technical quality of policy advice. This may include an assessment of clarity, accuracy, analytical rigour, and relevance.

Financial Statements and Schedules

Statement of comprehensive revenue and expense

For the year ended 30 June 2026.

Actual 30 June 2025 \$000		Notes	Actual 30 June 2026 \$000	Unaudited budget 30 June 2026 \$000	Unaudited forecast 30 June 2027 \$000
29,288	Revenue Crown		28,407	28,407	26,072
0	Departmental revenue	2	0	0	0
0	Other revenue	2	0	0	0
29,288	Total revenue		28,407	28,407	26,072
12,933	Personnel costs	3	13,423	13,978	14,185
16,036	Operating costs	4	13,786	14,244	11,643
258	Depreciation and amortisation	8, 9	136	129	188
56	Capital charge	5	57	56	56
29,283	Total expense		27,402	28,407	26,072
5	Surplus/(deficit)		1,005	0	0
-	Other comprehensive revenue and expense		0	-	
5	Total comprehensive revenue and expense		1,005	0	0

Explanations of significant variances against budget are detailed in Note 14. The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Statement of financial position

For the year ended 30 June 2026.

Actual 30 June 2025 \$000		Notes	Actual 30 June 2026 \$000	Unaudited budget 30 June 2026 \$000	Unaudited forecast 30 June 2027 \$000
Assets					
Current assets					
3,820	Cash and cash equivalents	6	4,025	3,834	3,786
352	Debtors and other receivables	7	73	70	0
13	Prepayments		82	0	70
4,185	Total current assets		4,180	3,904	3,856
Non-current assets					
258	Property, plant, and equipment	8	130	256	316
0	Intangible assets	9	0	0	0
258	Total non-current assets		130	256	316
4,443	Total assets		4,310	4,160	4,172
Liabilities and taxpayers' funds					
2,066	Creditors and other payables and deferred revenue	10	1,266	1,828	1,840
5	Return of operating surplus		1,010	0	0
1,143	Employee entitlements	11	790	1,143	1,143
3,214	Total current liabilities		3,066	2,971	2,983
Non-current liabilities					
91	Employee entitlements	11	106	51	51
91	Total non-current liabilities		106	51	51
3,305	Total liabilities		3,172	3,022	3,034
Taxpayers' funds					
1,138	Taxpayers' funds		1,138	1,138	1,138
1,138	Total taxpayers' funds		1,138	1,138	1,138
4,443	Total liabilities and taxpayers' funds		4,310	4,160	4,172

Explanations of significant variances against budget are detailed in Note 14.

Statement of changes of equity

For the year ended 30 June 2026.

Actual 30 June 2025 \$000		Notes	Actual 30 June 2026 \$000	Unaudited budget 30 June 2026 \$000	Unaudited forecast 30 June 2027 \$000
1,128	Equity as at 1 July		1,138	1,138	1,138
5	Total comprehensive revenue and expense		1,005	0	0
10	Cash drawdown		0	0	0
(5)	Return of operating surplus to the Crown		(1,005)	0	0
1,138	Equity as at 30 June		1,138	1,138	1,138

Explanations of significant variances against budget are detailed in Note 14.

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 30 June 2026.

Actual 30 June 2025 \$000	Notes	Actual 30 June 2026 \$000	Unaudited budget 30 June 2026 \$000	Unaudited forecast 30 June 2027 \$000
Cash flows from operating activities				
Cash was provided from:				
29,288	Receipts from the Crown	28,407	28,407	26,072
(4)	Receipts from other departments	(69)	0	0
0	Receipts from others	0	17	0
0	Goods and services tax	0	0	0
29,284	Total cash flows from operating activities	28,338	28,424	26,072
Cash was applied to:				
(14,404)	Payments to employees	(13,819)	(13,928)	(13,729)
(17,265)	Payments to suppliers	(13,997)	(14,294)	(12,099)
(56)	Payment for capital charge	(36)	(56)	(56)
(22)	Goods and services tax	(235)	0	0
(31,747)	Total cash applied for operating activities	(28,087)	(28,278)	(25,884)
(2,463)	New cash flows from operating activities	251	146	188
Cash flows from investing activities				
Cash was provided from:				
8	Receipts from sale of property, plant, and equipment	0	0	0
Cash was applied to:				
0	Purchase of intangible assets	0	0	0
(8)	Purchase of property, plant, and equipment	(46)	(127)	(248)
0	Net cash flows from investing activities	(46)	(127)	(248)
Cash flows from financial activities				
Cash was provided from:				
10	Capital injections			12
Cash was applied to:				
(2,913)	Return of operating surplus	0	(5)	0
(2,903)	Net cash flows from financing activities	0	(5)	12
(5,366)	Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	205	14	(48)
9,186	Cash as at 1 July	3,820	3,820	3,834
3,820	Closing cash as at 30 June	4,025	3,834	3,786

Goods and services tax is presented on a net basis, as the gross amounts do not provide meaningful information for financial reporting purposes.

Explanations of significant variances against budget are detailed in Note 14.

Reconciliation of net surplus to net cash flow from operating activities

For the year ended 30 June 2026.

Actual 30 June 2025 \$000		Actual 30 June 2026 \$000
5	Net surplus	1,005
	Add/(less) non-cash items	
258	Depreciation and amortisation expense	175
258	Total non-cash items	175
	Add/(less) items classified as investing or financing activities	
104	Net (gains)/losses on disposal of property, plant, and equipment	0
104	Total items classified as investing or financing activities	0
	Add/(less)movements in statement of financial position items	
(228)	(Increase)/Decrease in receivables and prepayments	209
(1,128)	Increase/(Decrease) in payables and deferred revenue	(793)
(1,474)	Increase/(Decrease) in provisions	(345)
(2,830)	Total new movement in statement of financial position items	(929)
(2,463)	Net cash flows from operating activities	251

Statement of commitments

For the year ended 30 June 2026.

Non-cancellable operating lease commitments

The Ministry leases property in the normal course of its business. Most of these leases are for premises that have a non-cancellable leasing period ranging from one to ten years, with regular rent reviews.

The Ministry's non-cancellable operating leases have varying terms, escalation clauses, and renewal rights.

There are no restrictions placed on the Ministry by any of its leasing arrangements.

The Ministry's Southern Office is part of a government property co-location agreement under the lead of Stats NZ. Obligations under the co-location agreement are reflected in the commitments schedule.

The Ministry's Northern office is part of a government property sub-lease arrangement under the lead of Te Puni Kōkiri. Obligations under the sub-lease arrangement are reflected in the commitments schedule.

The sub-leases for the Ministry's Northern office include rent costs as well as operating expenses, and so the values in the following table include both rent and operating expenses.

Actual 30 June 2025 \$000		Actual 30 June 2026 \$000	
Capital commitments			
0	Buildings		0
0	Intangible assets		0
0	Total capital commitments		0
Non-cancellable operating lease commitments			
963	Not later than one year		927
2,991	Later than one year and not later than five years		2,798
6,728	Later than five years		6,200
10,682	Total non-cancellable operating lease commitments		9,925

Statement of contingent liabilities and contingent assets

For the year ended 30 June 2026.

The Ministry for Pacific Peoples has no contingent liabilities or contingent assets as at 30 June 2026 (2025: nil).

Notes to the financial statements

Note 1: Statement of accounting policies for the year ended 30 June 2026

Reporting entity

The Ministry for Pacific Peoples (the Ministry) is a government department as defined by section 5 of the Public Service Act 2020 and is domiciled in New Zealand. The relevant legislation governing the Ministry's operations includes the Public Finance Act 1989 (the PFA) and the Public Service Act 2020. The Ministry's ultimate parent is the New Zealand Crown.

The primary objective of the Ministry is to provide services to the public rather than to make a financial return. Accordingly, the Ministry has designated itself as a public benefit entity (PBE) for financial reporting purposes.

The financial statements of the Ministry are for the year ended 30 June 2026 and were authorised for issue by the Chief Executive of the Ministry on 28 September 2026. In addition, the Ministry has reported on Crown activities that it administers in the non-departmental statements and schedules on page 124.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, and the accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the period.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements of the Ministry have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the PFA, which includes the requirements to comply with New Zealand Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (NZ GAAP) and Treasury Instructions.

The Ministry's total annual expenditure is less than \$30 million and it does not have public accountability as defined by XRB A1 Application of the Accounting Standards Framework.

Measurement base

The financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis.

Functional and presentation currency

The financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars, and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$000) unless otherwise stated. The functional currency of the Ministry is the New Zealand dollar.

Changes in accounting policies

The Ministry's accounting policies set out have been applied consistently to all periods presented in these financial statements. There have been no changes in the Ministry's accounting policies since the date of the last audited financial statements.

Significant accounting policies

The following particular accounting policies, which materially affect the measurement of financial results and financial position, have been applied.

Revenue recognition

Revenue is measured at the fair value of consideration received or receivable.

Revenue Crown

Revenue from the Crown is measured based on the Ministry's funding entitlement for the reporting period. Parliament establishes the funding entitlement when it passes the Appropriation Acts for the financial year. The amount of revenue recognised considers any amendments to appropriations approved by the Appropriation (Supplementary Estimates) Act for the year and certain other unconditional funding adjustments formally approved prior to balance date.

There are no conditions attached to the funding from the Crown. However, the Ministry can only incur expenses within the scopes and limits of its appropriations.

The fair value of Revenue Crown has been determined to be equivalent to the funding entitlement.

Capital charge

The capital charge is recognised as an expense in the period to which the charge relates.

Operating leases

An operating lease is a lease that does not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to the ownership of an asset. All of the Ministry's leases are operating leases.

Lease payments under an operating lease are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term. Leasehold improvements are capitalised, and the cost is amortised over the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful life of the improvements, whichever is shorter.

Lease incentives received are recognised evenly over the term of the lease as a reduction in rental expense.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand and deposits held on call with banks.

The Ministry is only permitted to expend cash and cash equivalents within the scopes and limits of its appropriations.

Property, plant, and equipment

Property, plant, and equipment consist of the following asset classes: leasehold improvements, IT equipment, furniture and office equipment, and motor vehicles.

All asset classes are measured at cost, less accumulated depreciation, and impairment losses.

Additions

The cost of an item of property, plant, and equipment is recognised as an asset only when it is probable that the future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the Ministry and the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

Work in progress is recognised at cost less impairment and is not depreciated.

In most instances, an item of property, plant, and equipment is initially recognised at its cost. Where an asset is acquired through a non-exchange transaction, it is recognised at its fair value at the date of acquisition.

Disposals

Gains and losses on disposal are determined by comparing the proceeds of disposal with the carrying amount of the asset. Gains and losses on disposal are charged to the surplus or deficit in the period in which the asset is disposed of.

Subsequent costs

Costs incurred after the initial acquisition are capitalised only when it is probable that the future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the Ministry and the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

Asset capitalisation

Property, plant, and equipment are initially recorded at cost of purchase. These are capitalised:

- if purchased individually and the cost price is greater than \$3,000
- if purchased as a group and the combined value is greater than \$3,000.

Laptops and similar computing devices may be capitalised even if their cost price is less than \$3,000.

Capital work in progress is recognised as costs are incurred. Depreciation is not recorded until the asset is fully acceptance tested, operational, and capitalised.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on a straight-line basis on all property, plant, and equipment, other than land, at rates that will write off the cost of the assets to their estimated residual values over their useful lives.

The useful lives and associated depreciation rates of major classes of property, plant, and equipment have been estimated as follows:

Asset category	Asset life
Furniture and buildings	8 years
Office equipment	3—5 years
Motor vehicles	4—5 years
EDP equipment	3—4 years

Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated remaining useful lives of the improvements, whichever is shorter.

The residual value and useful life of an asset are reviewed, and adjusted if applicable, at each financial year-end.

Intangible assets

Acquired computer software and licences are capitalised on the basis of the costs incurred to acquire and bring to use the specific software.

All maintenance and training costs associated with intangible assets are expensed when incurred.

Intangible assets with finite lives are recorded at cost, less any amortisation and impairment losses. Amortisation is charged to the surplus or deficit on a straight-line basis over the useful life of the asset.

Estimated useful lives are:

Asset category	Asset life
Acquired software	7 years

Impairment of property, plant, equipment, and intangible assets

The Ministry does not hold any cash-generating assets. Assets are considered cash-generating where their primary objective is to generate a commercial return.

Property, plant, equipment, and intangible assets are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the

amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable service amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and its value in use.

Value in use is determined using either a depreciated replacement cost approach, a restoration cost approach, or a service units approach. The most appropriate approach for measuring value in use depends on the nature of the impairment and the availability of information.

If an asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable service amount, the asset is regarded as impaired and the carrying amount is written down to the recoverable amount. The reversal of an impairment loss is recognised in surplus or deficit.

Creditors and other payables

Creditors and other payables are measured at the amount payable.

Employee entitlements

Short-term employee entitlements

The Ministry sets aside money for employee leave it expects to pay within 12 months. This includes unpaid wages, annual leave not yet taken, and some types of special leave. It also covers retiring leave, and long service leave.

The Ministry recognises a liability and an expense for performance payments where it is contractually obliged to pay them, or where there is a past practice that has created a constructive obligation.

Long-term employee entitlements

Entitlements due to be settled beyond 12 months after the end of the reporting period in which the employee renders the related service, such as long service leave and retiring leave, have been calculated on an actuarial basis using a model provided by the Treasury.

The calculations are based on:

- likely future entitlements accrued to staff, based on years of service, years to entitlement, the likelihood that staff will reach the point of entitlement, contractual entitlements information
- the present value of the estimated future cash flows.

The following discount rates were used:

30 June 2025	Discount rate	30 June 2026
3.14%	Year 1	2.97%
3.47%	Year 2	3.75%
3.96%	Year 3	5.80%

A salary inflation factor of 2.97% (2025: 3.14%) was also used. The discount rates were advised by the Treasury and are based on the weighted average of government bonds with terms to maturity similar to those of the relevant liabilities. The inflation factor is based on the expected long-term increase in remuneration for employees.

Presentation of employee entitlements

Sick leave, annual leave, vested and non-vested long service leave, and retirement gratuities expected to be settled within 12 months of balance date are classified as current liabilities. All other employee entitlements are classified as non-current liabilities.

Superannuation schemes

Obligations for contributions to the State Sector Retirement Savings Scheme, KiwiSaver and the government Superannuation Fund are accounted for as defined contribution schemes and are recognised as an expense in the surplus or deficit as incurred.

Provisions

The Ministry records a provision when it expects to spend money in the future, but the exact amount or timing is uncertain. This happens when there is a current obligation due to a past event, and it's likely that payment will be needed. The Ministry must also be able to reasonably estimate how much the obligation will cost.

Provisions are not recorded for expected future operating losses.

The value of each provision is based on the present cost of settling the obligation.

Equity

Equity is the Crown's investment in the Ministry and is measured as the difference between total assets and total liabilities. Equity is classified as taxpayers' funds.

Grant expenditure

Non-discretionary grants are those grants awarded if the grant application meets the required criteria. They are recognised as an expense when an application that meets the specified criteria for the grant has been received.

Discretionary grants are those grants where the Ministry has no obligation to award on receipt of the grant application. They are recognised as an expense when approved by the Ministry's Secretary, relevant Deputy Secretary, or Grants Approval Committee and the approval has been communicated to the applicant.

Operating costs

Operating costs are recognised as goods and services are received.

Goods and services tax (GST)

All items in the financial statements, including the appropriation statements, are stated exclusive of GST except for receivables and payables, which are stated on a GST-inclusive basis. Where GST is not recoverable as an input tax, it is recognised as part of the related asset or expense.

The net amount of GST owed to or from the Inland Revenue Department (IRD) at balance date is shown as a current asset or current liability in the Statement of Financial Position.

The net GST paid to or received from the IRD, including GST relating to investing activities, is classified as a net operating cash flow in the Statement of Cash Flows.

Commitments and contingencies are disclosed exclusive of GST.

Income tax

The Ministry is a public authority and consequently is exempt from income tax. Accordingly, no provision has been made for income tax.

Statement of cost allocation policies

The Ministry derives the costs of outputs using a cost allocation system outlined below.

Direct costs are those costs that can be directly attributed to an output. Indirect costs are those costs that cannot be identified in an economically feasible manner with a specific output.

Direct costs are charged directly to output classes. Indirect costs are allocated to output classes based on cost drivers, and related activity or usage information.

Personnel costs are charged on a team-by-team basis, with teams being designated either Direct or Indirect. Other indirect costs are assigned to outputs based on the proportion of direct staff costs for each output.

There have been no changes in cost accounting policies since the date of the last audited financial statements.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

In preparing these financial statements the Ministry has made estimates and assumptions about the future. These estimates and assumptions may differ from the subsequent actual results. Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

There are no estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

Critical judgements in applying the Ministry's accounting budget and forecast figures

Basis of the budget and forecast figures

The 2026 budget figures are for the year ended 30 June 2026. They are consistent with the Ministry's best estimate financial forecast information submitted to the Treasury for the Budget Economic and Fiscal Update (BEFU) for the year ended 30 June 2026.

The 2027 forecast figures are for the year ending 30 June 2027 and are consistent with the best estimate financial forecast information submitted to the Treasury for BEFU for the year ending 30 June 2027.

The forecast financial statements have been prepared as required by the PFA to communicate forecast financial information for accountability purposes.

The 30 June 2026 forecast figures have been prepared in accordance with, and comply with, PBE FRS 42.

Prospective Financial Statements

The forecast financial statements were approved for issue by the Chief Executive on 22 April 2025. The Chief Executive is responsible for the forecast financial statements, including the appropriateness of the assumptions made in their preparation and all other required disclosures.

While the Ministry regularly updates its forecasts, updated financial statements for the year ending 30 June 2026 will not be published.

Significant assumptions used in preparing the forecast financial statements

The forecast figures used in these financial statements reflect the Ministry's purpose and activities and are based on assumptions on what may occur. The forecast figures for 2026/27 year have been compiled on the basis of existing government policies and Ministerial expectations at the time the main Estimates were finalised.

The main assumptions, which were adopted at 22 April 2025, were as follows:

- The activities and output expectations of the Ministry will remain substantially the same as for the previous year.
- Personnel costs were based on 99 full-time equivalent staff, which considers staff turnover.
- Remuneration rates are based on current wages and salary costs, adjusted for anticipated remuneration changes.
- Operating costs varied due to potential efficiencies in property, maintenance, and information technology infrastructure.
- Year-end information for 2025/26 and the outcome of the Government's 2026 Budget process was used for the 2026/27 budget and forecast.

The actual financial results achieved for the year ending 30 June 2026 are likely to vary from the forecast information provided, and the variations may be material.

Since the approval of the forecasts, there has been no significant change or event that would have a material effect on the forecasts at 30 June 2026.

Note 2: Other revenue (exchange transactions)

Actual 30 June 2025 \$000		Actual 30 June 2026 \$000
0	Revenue from other agencies	0
0	Other revenue	0
0	Gain on disposal of assets	0

Note 3: Personnel costs

Actual 30 June 2025 \$000		Actual 30 June 2026 \$000
12,840	Salaries and wages	12,898
361	Employer contributions to defined contribution plans	384
(339)	Increase/(decrease) in employee entitlements	62
71	Other	79
12,933	Total personnel costs	13,423

Note 4: Operating costs

Actual 30 June 2025 \$000		Actual 30 June 2026 \$000
162	Audit fees for financial statements audit	166
0	Other fees paid to the Ministry's auditors	0
929	Operating lease payments	1,079
(26)	Maintenance and minor capital purchases	(10)
253	Travel	281
109	Conferences and training	160
732	Consultancy and professional fees	392
30	Legal fees	103
49	Office operating costs	0
5,204	Language funding grants	4,688
0	COVID-19 funding grants	0
230	Dawn Raids funding grants	275
8,364	Other operating costs	6,652
16,036	Total operating expenses	13,786

Note 5: Capital charge

The Ministry pays a capital charge to the Crown on its equity at 31 December and 30 June each year. The capital charge rate for the financial year ended 30 June 2026 was 5% (2025: 5%).

Note 6: Cash and cash equivalents

Actual 30 June 2025 \$000		Actual 30 June 2026 \$000	
3,820	Cash at bank and on hand	4,025	
3,820	Total cash and cash equivalents	4,025	

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand, call deposits, and other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less. Although subject to expected credit loss requirements under PBE IFRS 9, no loss allowance has been recognised as the estimated credit losses are immaterial. Cash at bank and on hand is not subject to restrictions.

Note 7: Debtors and other receivables

Actual 30 June 2025 \$000		Actual 30 June 2026 \$000	
352	Other receivables	73	
352	Total debtors and other receivables	73	

While debtors and other receivables at 30 June 2026 are subject to the expected loss requirements of PBE IFRS 41, no loss allowance has been recognised because the estimated loss allowance for credit losses is trivial. A debt of nil was written off during the financial year ended 30 June 2026 (2025: \$0).

Note 8: Property, plant, and equipment

	Leasehold Improvements \$000	IT equipment \$000	Furniture / Office equipment \$000	Motor vehicles \$000	Total \$000
Cost					
Balance at 1 July 2024	1,200	754	264	209	2,427
Additions	4	8	1	0	13
Disposals	(1,204)	(177)	(52)	0	(1,433)
Balance at 30 June 2025	0	585	213	209	1,007
Balance at 1 July 2025	0	585	213	209	1,007
Additions	0	37	10	0	47
Disposals	0	(228)	(203)	0	(431)
Balance at 30 June 2026	0	394	20	209	623
Accumulated depreciation					
Balance at 1 July 2024	1,016	393	196	205	1,810
Depreciation expense	80	137	37	4	258
Depreciation on disposal	(1,096)	(173)	(50)	0	(1,319)
Balance at 30 June 2025	0	357	183	209	749
Balance at 1 July 2025	0	357	183	209	749
Depreciation expense	0	121	14	0	135
Depreciation on disposal	0	(206)	(185)	0	(391)
Balance at 30 June 2026	0	272	12	209	493
Carrying amount					
At 1 July 2024	184	361	68	4	617
At 30 June and 1 July 2025	0	228	30	0	258
At 30 June 2026	0	122	8	0	130

Work in progress

Leasehold improvements in the course of construction total of nil (2025: \$0). No other asset classes have assets in the course of construction.

Note 9: Intangible assets

	Total \$000
Cost	
Balance at 1 July 2024	509
Additions	0
Disposals	0
Balance at 30 June 2025	509
Balance at 1 July 2025	509
Additions	0
Disposals	(509)
Balance at 30 June 2026	0
Accumulated amortisation	
Balance at 1 July 2024	509
Amortisation expense	0
Disposals	0
Balance at 30 June 2025	509
Balance at 1 July 2025	509
Amortisation expense	0
Disposals	(509)
Balance at 30 June 2026	0
Carrying amount	
At 1 July 2024	0
At 30 June and 1 July 2025	0
At 30 June 2026	0

There are no restrictions over the title of the Ministry's intangible assets, nor are any intangible assets pledged as security for liabilities.

Note 10: Creditors and other payables

Actual 30 June 2025 \$000		Actual 30 June 2026 \$000
	Current liabilities under exchange transactions	
677	Creditors	788
1,172	Accrued expenses	493
	Current liabilities under non-exchange transactions	
217	Taxes payable	(15)
0	Deferred revenue	0
2,066	Total creditors and other payables	1,266

Creditors and other payables are non-interest bearing and are normally settled on 30-day terms. The carrying value of creditors and other payables approximates their fair value.

Note 11: Employee entitlements

Actual 30 June 2025 \$000		Actual 30 June 2026 \$000
	Current liabilities	
653	Annual leave	733
439	Accrued salaries and wages	39
0	Sick leave	0
51	Long-service and retiring leave	18
1,143	Total current liabilities	790
	Non-current liabilities	
91	Long service and retiring leave	106
91	Total non-current liabilities	106
1,234	Total provision for employee entitlements	896

Annual leave has been calculated on an actual entitlement basis at current rates of pay.

Provisions for long-service leave and retiring leave are calculated on an actuarial basis based on the present value of expected future entitlements. The rates are advised to the Ministry from the Treasury. Refer to Note 1 for details of these rates.

Change in the liability due to changes in rates are outlined below:

Actual 30 June 2025 \$000		Actual 30 June 2026 \$000
(25)	Re-measurement	18

Note 12: Categories of financial instruments

The carrying amounts of financial assets and financial liabilities are as follows:

Actual 30 June 2025 \$000		Actual 30 June 2026 \$000
	Financial assets measured at amortised cost	
3,820	Cash and cash equivalents	4,025
352	Debtors and other receivables (Note 7)	73
4,172	Total loans and receivables	4,098
	Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	
1,849	Creditors and other payables (excluding deferred revenue and GST (Note 10))	1,281
1,849	Total financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	1,281

Note 13: Related-party transactions

The Ministry is a wholly-owned entity of the Crown.

The Ministry does not disclose transactions with related parties when they occur under normal business terms. This applies when the terms are similar to what the Ministry would offer any other supplier or client. In these cases, the transactions are treated as if they were with unrelated parties.

Further, transactions with other government agencies (for example, government departments and Crown entities) are not disclosed as related-party transactions when they are consistent with the normal operating arrangements between government agencies and undertaken on the normal terms and conditions for such transactions.

Related-party transactions involving key management personnel or their close family members

‘Key management personnel’ includes the Minister for Pacific Peoples, the Secretary/Chief Executive and the five (2025: six) managerial positions that form the senior leadership team.

The Ministry has not purchased goods and services from key management personnel or their close family members (2025: nil).

No provision has been required nor any expense recognised for impairment of receivables from related parties.

Actual 30 June 2025 \$000		Actual 30 June 2026 \$000
1,731	Salaries and other short-term employee benefits	1,441
40	Contributions to Defined Contribution Superannuation Plan	31
0	Termination benefits	0
1,771	Total key management personnel compensation	1,472

The key management personnel compensation above excludes the remuneration and other benefits that the Minister for Pacific Peoples receives. Ministers' remuneration and other benefits are not received only for their role as members of key management personnel of the Ministry. Ministers' remuneration and other benefits are set by the Members of Parliament (Remuneration and Services) Act 2013 and are paid under Permanent Legislative Authority, but not by the Ministry for Pacific Peoples. There were no related-party transactions with the Minister for Pacific Peoples.

Note 14: Explanation of major variances against budget

Explanations for major variances from the Ministry's budgeted figures in the Information Supporting the Estimates of Appropriations are as follows:

Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense

Crown revenue was equal to the budget amount. The Ministry is no longer in multi-year appropriation.

Expenses were \$1.005 million less than the budget.

Personnel costs were lower than budget, driven by vacancies across the financial year. This created capacity to redirect funding towards extending the Pacific Healthy Homes initiative and advancing the exploration of AI capability to support the Ministry's objectives.

Statement of Financial Position

Cash and cash equivalents were \$0.191 million more than budget amounts. This is timing differences, when the invoice payments fall due.

Creditors and other payables and deferred revenue was \$0.562 million less than the budgeted amount. This was mainly due to lesser accruals with salaries paid right up to the end of June.

Employee entitlements were \$0.227 million below budget. This variance is primarily due to the reduction of staff.

Statement of Cash Flows

Receipts from the Crown was equal to the budget amount.

Payments to employees and suppliers were \$0.406 million less than budget, mainly due to planned savings for the year with a few vacant positions remaining open.

Note 15: Events after the balance sheet date

There have been no significant events after balance date.

Appropriation Statements

The following statements report information about the expenses and capital expenditure incurred against each appropriation administered by the Ministry for the year ended 30 June 2026.

In these statements:

- Remeasurements are movements in the value of an asset or liability that are outside the control of the Ministry, as defined in the Public Finance Act 1989. Remeasurements do not require an appropriation.
- Appropriation voted figures are from the 2025/26 Supplementary Estimates of Appropriations for Vote Pacific peoples.
- Location of end-of-year performance information discloses where end-of-year performance information is reported for each appropriation administered by the Ministry for Pacific Peoples, as detailed below:
 1. Annual Report of the Ministry for Pacific Peoples (this report)
 2. Non-departmental Appropriations Report for Vote Pacific Peoples (presented in this report, see page 124)
 3. No reporting required due to an exemption obtained under section 15D of the Public Finance Act 1989.

Statement of budgeted and actual expenses and expenses and capital expenditure incurred against appropriations

For the year ended 30 June 2026

Annual and permanent appropriations for the Ministry for Pacific Peoples

	Expenditure after remeasurement 30 June 2025 \$000	Expenditure before remeasurement 30 June 2026 \$000	Remeasurements 30 June 2026 \$000	Expenditure after remeasurement 30 June 2026 \$000	Approved appropriation 30 June 2026 \$000	Location of end-of-year performance information 30 June 2026
Departmental output expenses						
Policy advice and ministerial servicing MCA						
Communications, projects, and relationships	24,583	24,088	(16)	24,072	26,307	(1)
Policy advice	4,700	3,332	(2)	3,330	2,100	(1)
Total departmental output expenses	29,283	27,420	(18)	27,402	28,407	
Departmental capital expenditure						
Ministry for Pacific Peoples – capital expenditure PLA	8	46	0	46	127	(1)
Total departmental capital expenditure	8	46	0	46	127	
Non-departmental output expenses						
Promotions – business development	9,947	6,212	0	6,212	6,292	(2)
Skills training and employment appropriation	9,783	6,352	0	6,352	6,352	(2)
Pasifika Wardens	0	250		250	250	(2)
Total non-departmental output expenses	19,730	12,814	0	12,814	12,894	
Benefit and other related expenses						
Study and training awards for business development	1,221	1,222	0	1,222	1,222	(3)
Total non-departmental benefits and other related expenses	1,221	1,222	0	1,222	1,222	
Non-departmental other expenses						
Housing Pacific families	34,242	9,614	0	9,614	10,290	(2)
Total non-departmental other expenses	34,242	9,614	0	9,614	10,290	

Statement of expenses and capital expenditure incurred without, or in excess of, appropriation or other authority

For the year ended 30 June 2026.

Transfers approved under section 26A of the Public Finance Act 1989

No section 26A transfers were authorised in the year ended 30 June 2026.

Transfers under section 26B of the Public Finance Act

No section 26B transfers were authorised in the year ended 30 June 2026.

Expenses and capital expenditure incurred in excess of appropriation

No expenses or capital expenditure were incurred in excess of appropriation in the year ended 30 June 2026.

Expenses and capital expenditure incurred without appropriation or outside scope or period of appropriation

No expenses or capital expenditure were incurred without appropriation or outside the scope or period of appropriation in the year ended 30 June 2026.

Non-departmental schedules

This section reports on the Non-Departmental Financial Schedules in the form of revenue and capital receipts, expenses, assets and liabilities, commitments, contingent liabilities, and contingent assets that the Ministry manages on behalf of the Crown.

Schedule of non-departmental revenue

For the year ended 30 June 2026.

There is no revenue at 30 June 2026 (2025: nil).

Schedule of non-departmental capital receipts

For the year ended 30 June 2026.

There are no capital receipts at 30 June 2026 (2025: nil).

Schedule of non-departmental expenses

What are non-departmental expenses?

A category (class) of outputs can be supplied either by a department (in which case it is labelled a departmental output expense) or to, or on behalf of, the Crown (in which case it is labelled a non-departmental output expense). Definitions of 'departmental' and 'non-departmental' are in section 2 of the Public Finance Act 1989.

Non-departmental expense appropriations are where Ministers have decided to use a supplier other than a department to provide an output.

For the year ended 30 June 2026

Non-departmental expenses	Actual 30 June 2025 \$000	Actual 30 June 2026 \$000	Unaudited budget 30 June 2026 \$000
Grants paid to third parties	53,972	22,428	23,184
Social assistance benefits	1,221	1,222	1,222
GST on Crown expenses	8,953	4,768	3,479
Total non-departmental expenses	64,146	28,418	27,885

Schedule of non-departmental assets

For the year ended 30 June 2026

Non-departmental assets	Actual 30 June 2025 \$000	Actual 30 June 2026 \$000	Unaudited budget 30 June 2026 \$000
Bank	24,843	22,775	21,187

Explanations of major variances against budget are detailed in Note 2.

Schedule of non-departmental liabilities

For the year ended 30 June 2026

Non-departmental liabilities	Actual 30 June 2025 \$000	Actual 30 June 2026 \$000	Unaudited budget 30 June 2026 \$000
Due to providers	11,689	10,154	8,033

Explanations of major variances against budget are detailed in Note 2.

Schedule of non-departmental commitments

For the year ended 30 June 2026

There are no non-departmental commitments as at 30 June 2026 (2025: nil).

Schedule of non-departmental contingent liabilities and contingent assets

For the year ended 30 June 2026

There are no contingent liabilities or assets as at 30 June 2026 (2025: nil).

For a full understanding of the Crown's financial position and the results of its operations for the year, refer to the consolidated Financial Statements of the government for the year ended 30 June 2026.

Notes to the Non-departmental schedules

Note 1: Statement of accounting policies for the year ended 30 June 2026

Reporting entity

These non-departmental schedules present financial information on public funds managed by the Ministry on behalf of the Crown.

These non-departmental balances are consolidated into the Financial Statements of the government for the year ended 30 June 2026. For a full understanding of the Crown's financial position, results of operations and cash flows for the year, readers should refer to the Financial Statements of the government.

Basis of preparation

The non-departmental statements and schedules have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies of the consolidated Financial Statements of the government, Treasury Instructions, and Treasury Circulars.

Measurement and recognition rules applied in the preparation of these non-departmental statements and schedules are consistent with New Zealand Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (Public Sector Benefit Entity Accounting Standards) as appropriate for public benefit entities.

Presentation currency and rounding

The financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars, and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$000). The functional currency of the Ministry is the New Zealand dollar.

Measurement base

The financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis.

Significant accounting policies

The non-departmental schedules have been prepared using the same significant accounting policies as outlined in Note 1 to the departmental financial statements.

Note 2: Explanation of major variances against budget

Explanations for major variances from the Ministry's non-departmental figures in the main Estimates are as follows:

Schedule of non-departmental expenses

Grants paid to third parties was \$0.756 million less than the budget amount.

The non-departmental underspend relates to delays in the Housing Pacific Families initiative due to land negotiations.

Schedules of non-departmental assets and liabilities

The variance to budget is the result of the timing of payments made to suppliers at year end, and lower grants paid over time.

Other statutory disclosures

Delegations

Under Schedule 2 of the Public Service Act 2020, a department chief executive can delegate a specific function or power to someone outside the Public Service. This can only happen with the Minister's approval and if the chief executive is confident that any conflicts of interest will be avoided or managed.

Departments must describe in their annual report how effectively any such delegation was performed or exercised.

The Secretary for Pacific Peoples has not made any delegations under this statute.

Asset Performance Indicators

Under direction from the Cabinet Office in 2023, agencies must report on relevant asset performance indicators for service-critical assets in their annual reports. Agencies are required to identify as a 'service-critical asset' any asset which, if damaged or destroyed, would be likely to have a significantly adverse impact on the delivery of the agency's services.

The Ministry for Pacific Peoples has identified no service-critical assets in line with the reporting requirements in

Cabinet Office Circular CO (23) 9: Investment Management and Asset Performance in Departments and Other Entities CO (23) 9.



Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

Minister for Pacific Peoples' Non-departmental Appropriations Report

For the year ended 30 June 2026

Introduction

In accordance with section 19B of the Public Finance Act 1989 (the Act), and as the Minister responsible for non-departmental appropriations within Vote Pacific Peoples during 2025/26, I submit this report on appropriations that were not granted an exemption from reporting under section 15D of the Act for the 2025/26 financial year.

This report outlines what was intended to be achieved by each of the appropriations, and results delivered by third-party service providers funded by the Ministry for Pacific Peoples that do not report to Parliament through other reporting mechanisms.

This report provides year-end non-financial and financial performance for the relevant non-departmental appropriations for the period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Paul Goldsmith', written over a horizontal line.

Hon Paul Goldsmith
Minister for Pacific Peoples

28 September 2026

Statements of Performance

Overview

This report presents the performance results for three non-departmental appropriations, as outlined in the 2025/26 Estimates and Supplementary Estimates of Appropriations for Vote Pacific Peoples. These results are reported in accordance with section 15D of the Public Finance Act 1989, which requires end-of-year performance reporting for specified categories of expenditure.

- Non-departmental output expenses
 - Community Policing – Pasifika Wardens
 - Promotions – Business Development
 - Skills training and employment
- Non-departmental benefits or related expenses
 - Study and Training Awards for Business Development
- Non-department other expenses
 - Housing Pacific Families.

All initiatives included in this report are delivered by the Ministry for Pacific Peoples on behalf of the Minister for Pacific Peoples.

Summary

Performance targets were achieved across employment and training pathways, Pacific language initiatives, and housing outcomes. In business development, the target for businesses supported and advised was exceeded; however, two measures did not meet their targets. Performance measures and case studies demonstrate that these initiatives supported Pacific peoples to access opportunities, strengthen skills and capability, and make progress towards improved housing, language, and wellbeing outcomes.

Non-departmental Output Expenses

Community Policing – Pacific Wardens

Scope of appropriation

This appropriation is limited to supporting Pacific Wardens.

What is intended to be achieved with this appropriation

This appropriation is intended to provide funding to adequately resource Pacific Wardens. This will support effective service delivery by providing funding for administrative support, transportation, and training.

Non-financial performance

An exemption was granted, as the appropriation is one from which resources will be provided to a person or an entity other than a department, a functional chief executive, an Office of Parliament, or a Crown entity, under s15D(2)(b)(iii) of the Public Finance Act 1989, as the amount of this annual appropriation for a non-departmental output expense is less than \$5 million.

Financial performance (GST exclusive, \$000)

Item	Actual 2024/25	Estimates 2025/26	Supp. Estimates 2025/26	Actual 2025/26	Forecast 2026/27
Total expenses	0	250	250	250	250

Promotions – business development

Scope of appropriation

This output class involves the purchase of a range of services that provide opportunities for Pacific peoples to gain the information and skills necessary to succeed in business.

What is intended to be achieved with this appropriation

This appropriation is intended to support the development of skills necessary for Pacific peoples to succeed in business.

Performance summary

Performance for business development and advisory support to the Pacific business sector was mixed in 2025/26. PBT significantly exceeded its target for businesses supported and advised, supporting 1,696 businesses against a target of at least 350. Targets for new job creation and the reported relevance and usability of advisory services were not achieved. Case study evidence demonstrates how advisory and capability-building support contributed to strengthening business capability and supporting business growth.

Non-financial performance

Supporting Pacific businesses to create new jobs and access advisory and business development services.

Measure	Target (2025/26)	Actual (2025/26)	2024/25
New jobs created in Pacific owned businesses every year (see note 1)	At least 200	24.5	484
Businesses supported and advised (see note 2)	At least 350	1,696	778
Businesses report high relevance and usability of advisory services and support (see note 3)	At least 75%	64.89%	—

Note 1: The definition of "new jobs" is filled roles/positions created by businesses that can be attributed to the support they received through Pacific Business Trust. The result of 24.5 jobs is based on workforce information self-reported by grant applicants. Following a review of the underlying data, PBT confirmed the full-year result and is strengthening reporting and quality assurance processes to support future reporting.

Note 2: This measures the coverage and reach of Pacific business networks and providers in terms of advisory services and business development support to the Pacific business sector.

Note 3: This is a new measure. Participant experience is assessed through a structured survey examining the relevance and usefulness of advisory services and support. Results are based on 188 valid survey responses, of which 64.9% provided a positive rating. As this was the first year the measure was reported, the result provides a baseline for future performance monitoring and target setting.

Indicator	Target (2025/26)	Actual (2025/26)	Summary of evidence
Pacific business capability and growth	Achieved		Case studies demonstrate Pacific businesses have applied skills to support sustainability and growth (Annual Report, p.42 - 44).

Methodology and assurance

A minimum of three case studies support this indicator, showing how Pacific businesses supported through the Pacific Business Trust have developed and applied business skills to support sustainability and growth.

Case studies include evidence of skill development and application (such as training completion and operational changes) and follow a structured methodology to ensure consistent selection, evidence collection, and quality assurance.

Financial performance (GST exclusive, \$000)

Total expenses of \$6.212 million in 2025/26 represents a reduction of \$3.735 million from 2024/25, reflecting changes to business development and advisory services within the initiative.

Item	Actual 2024/25	Estimates 2025/26	Supp. Estimates 2025/26	Actual 2025/26	Forecast 2026/27
Total expenses	9,947	6,292	6,292	6,212	6,292

Skills training and employment

Scope of appropriation

This output class involves the purchase of a range of services that will provide opportunities for Pacific peoples to gain the information and skills necessary to succeed in business.

What is intended to be achieved with this appropriation

This appropriation is intended to achieve sustainable employment and educational outcomes for Pacific youth.

Performance summary

Performance targets were achieved across all measures in 2025/26. The results indicate that funded services provided Pacific peoples with access to employment, education, training, and language learning opportunities, contributing to sustainable employment and educational outcomes.

Non-financial performance

A regionalised approach to supporting Pacific peoples who are identified as not in employment, education, or training (NEET) to access training, education, and employment opportunities. This aims to contribute towards reducing the proportion of Pacific peoples who are unemployed or underemployed in the New Zealand labour market.

Measure	Target (2025/26)	Actual (2025/26)	2024/25
Placements to support Pacific peoples into jobs, education, or training (see note 1)	At least 1,000	1,571	3,640

Note 1: The Tupu Aotearoa programme is being transferred to the Ministry of Social Development. For 2025/26, a one off allocation has been set, with the budget and expected placements capped at 1,000. This measures placements of eligible Pacific peoples into employment, education, and/or training, where the placement is held for at least 31 days.

Supporting the Centre for Pacific Languages (CPL) to deliver language learning courses and develop digital platforms to support language learning.

Measures	Target (2025/26)	Actual (2025/26)	2024/25
Enrolments in free Pacific languages courses through the CPL	At least 2,500	2,569	2,680
Completions of Pacific Language courses through the CPL (see note 1)	At least 1,000	1,010	—

Note1: This is a new measure.

Financial performance (GST exclusive, \$000)

Total expenses were \$6.352 million in 2025/26, spending was within the budget. The decrease in expenditure reflects the reduction in funding to support skills, training, and employment initiatives for Pacific peoples.

Item	Actual 2024/25	Estimates 2025/26	Supp. Estimates 2025/26	Actual 2025/26	Forecast 2026/27
Total expenses	9,783	6,352	6,352	6,352	6,352

Non-departmental benefits or related expenses

Study and Training Awards for Business Development

Scope of appropriation

This is for the promotion of positive role models for young Pacific people in New Zealand and the provision of scholarships for further education.

What is intended to be achieved with this appropriation

This appropriation is intended to achieve sustainable employment and educational outcomes for Pacific youth.

Non-financial performance

An exemption was granted, as the appropriation is one from which resources will be provided to a person or an entity other than a department, a functional chief executive, an Office of Parliament, or a Crown entity, under s15D(2)(b)(iii) of the Public Finance Act 1989, as the amount of this annual appropriation for a non-departmental output expense is less than \$5 million.

Financial performance (GST exclusive, \$000)

Total expenses were \$1.222 million in 2025/26, spending was within the budget in 2025/26 for study and training awards.

Item	Actual 2024/25	Estimates 2025/26	Supp. Estimates 2025/26	Actual 2025/26	Forecast 2026/27
Total expenses	1,221	1,222	1,222	1,222	1,222

Non-departmental other expenses

Housing Pacific Families

Scope of appropriation

This appropriation is limited to contributions toward the costs of developing new affordable homes for Pacific peoples.

What is intended to be achieved with this appropriation

This appropriation is intended to provide practical assistance and resources to organisations and Pacific housing providers to improve housing outcomes for Pacific peoples.

Performance summary

Performance for housing support for Pacific families was achieved in 2025/26. The Ministry supported initiatives that increased access to affordable, fit-for-purpose housing and strengthened pathways to home ownership for Pacific families. Performance targets were achieved across both measures, with homes delivered through Ministry-supported programmes and all surveyed homeowners reporting improved wellbeing and housing outcomes. These results demonstrate the contribution of housing support initiatives to improved housing security, wellbeing, and long-term financial resilience for Pacific families.

Non-financial performance

Contributing to the supply of affordable, fit-for-purpose homes to enable more Pacific families to own a home, which can serve as a foundation for building intergenerational wealth.

Measures	Target (2025/26)	Actual (2025/26)	2024/25
Collaborate to have affordable, fit-for-purpose homes built for Pacific families (see note 1)	25-35	27	22
New homeowners supported through Our Whare Our Fare report improved wellbeing and housing outcomes (see note 2)	At least 75%	100%	—

Note 1: This is an aggregated measure combining homes delivered to Pacific peoples through the Pacific Building Affordable Homes, and Our Whare our Fare Programmes. The combined target is up to 85 homes by December 2026.

Note 2: This new measure demonstrates the success of the Ministry's long-term strategic goal to increase financial security for Pacific peoples through home ownership

Indicator	Target (2025/26)	Actual (2025/26)	Summary of evidence
Improved housing outcomes for Pacific families	Achieved		Case studies show how practical support through the Pacific Building Affordable Homes Programme has contributed to improved housing outcomes for Pacific families (Annual Report, p. 68-70)

Methodology and assurance

A minimum of two case studies support this indicator, showing how practical support through the Pacific Building Affordable Homes Programme contributes to improved housing outcomes for Pacific families.

Case studies are structured to reflect typical Pacific Affordable Homes pathways (such as direct purchase, rent-to-buy, shared equity, or progressive home ownership). Providers retain original source documents, and the Ministry verifies evidence through sampling and internal quality assurance.

“Improved housing outcomes” includes verified progress such as increased stability, improved quality or suitability, reduced crowding, improved affordability and sustainability, or a greater ability to navigate housing processes.

Financial performance (GST exclusive, \$000)

Total expenses were \$9.614 million against the budget of \$10.290 million in 2025/26. Part of the 25/26 budget, an expense transfer of \$30 million to 2026/27 reflects the winding down of the housing support initiatives for Pacific families.

Item	Actual 2024/25	Estimates 2025/26	Supp. Estimates 2025/26	Actual 2025/26	Forecast 2026/27
Total expenses	34,242	10,290	10,290	9,614	10,290



