



17 March 2026



Ref: OIA-2025/26-0449

Tēnā koe

Official Information Act request relating to He Whenua Taurikura

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request of 18 January 2026 addressed to both the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) and Victoria University of Wellington (VUW) relating to He Whenua Taurikura (HWT).

You set out six requests for information about HWT. Parts 2, 3 and 6 were subsequently clarified with you. I have set out responses to each of your requests in relation to relevant information held by DPMC below. I also refer you to VUW's response.

The time frame for responding to your request was extended under section 15A of the Act by 16 working days because it necessitated a search through a large quantity of information and consultation was needed before a decision could be made on the request. Following this extension, I am now in a position to respond.

Please find **attached** documents relevant to different parts of your request as set out in the table below.

Item	Date	Document title or description	Decision
Item 1	24/04/2024	Letter to DPMC Executive Director, National Security Group.	Release in full.
Item 2	3/04/2024	Email from DPMC: Subject: Letter and proposed conditional grant agreement for He Whenua Taurikura Trust. <i>Attachments:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Letter (28/03/2024) to HWT Board members.Conditional Grant for He Whenua Taurikura – National Centre of Research Excellence.	Some information withheld under: s9(2)(a)
Item 3	March 2022	HWT Governance Board expression of interest information "Governance Board".	Release in full.
Item 4	Undated	HWT Governance Board Candidate questions "He Whenua Taurikura National Centre of Research Excellence – Governance Board".	Release in full.
Item 5	11/07/2022	Memorandum: He Whenua Taurikura National Centre of Research Excellence Governance Board and Trustee Appointments.	Some information withheld under: s9(2)(a) s9(2)(ba)(i)
Item 6	11/04/2022	Email from DPMC: Subject: RE: He Whenua Taurikura – Board Composition [UNCLASSIFIED]	Some information withheld under: s9(2)(a)

As noted in the table above and on the documents themselves some information has been withheld under the following sections of the Act:

- section 9(2)(a), to protect the privacy of individuals.
- section 9(2)(ba)(i), to protect the supply of similar information in the future.

In addition, relevant excerpts from HWT Board Minutes have been released to you under the relevant parts of your request. These are released to you under section 16(1)(e) of the Act, which allows relevant information to be released as summaries or excerpts.

I have set out below the information held by DPMC relevant to each part of your request.

1. *Titles of all research projects that were submitted to HWT for grants, and a list of all project titles that were funded by HWT.*

DPMC does not hold this information, and I refer you to VUW's response to this part of your request.

2. *Any correspondence among people working for HWT that included reference to the social media activity of staff, committee members, board members, or others associated with the Centre. On 27 January, you refined this part of your request. For Part 2, you specified key words / search phrases: "He Whenua Taurikura" and "social media" and "concerning"; and "staff" OR "committee" OR "board".*

Also identified as relevant to this part of your request is the following excerpt from the HWT Board minutes as copied below:

Excerpt from He Whenua Taurikura Board Meeting Minutes: Meeting held 28 February 2024

Topical issues, research and the media

Joanna noted that the Centre doesn't have a social media presence

There is a filenote identified as relevant to this part of your request which has been withheld in full under the following sections of the Act:

- section 9(2)(a), to protect the privacy of individuals.
- section 9(2)(g)(i), to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinion.
- section 9(2)(g)(ii), to prevent improper pressure or harassment.

3. *All communication that references priorities for the Centre, including any strategic planning documents. You agreed to limit Part 3 to "Strategic reports prepared by the HWT Centre for the HWT Trust relating to HWT Centre priorities," noting that you would however appreciate the draft documents and commentary (documents discussing the drafts) also.*

Please see:

- Item 1 which is a letter to DPMC Executive Director, National Security Group.
- Item 2 which is an email from DPMC, with an attached letter to HWT Board members and documents setting out the conditional grant for HWT.

Also identified as relevant to this part of your request is the following excerpt from the HWT Board minutes as copied below:

Excerpt from He Whenua Taurikura Board Meeting Minutes: Meeting held 7 December 2023

CENTRE'S 2024 ANNUAL PLAN	<p>The Board supported the overall direction of the draft Centre 2024 Annual Plan but did not yet approve it as a finalised plan as the Co-Directors will rework aspects including the budget to reflect Board discussions.</p> <p>Key Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agency feedback - agencies are wanting research to inform and direct policy work. DPMC had provided a consolidated list of Research Priorities on behalf of all agencies after a productive meeting with the Co-Directors in May. The investment in the HWT Centre's plan is not sufficient to reflect that as a priority though, and agencies are commissioning research separately rather than coming to HWT. • The Centre needs to be focused on delivering research in partnership with government agencies as a major area of its work if it is to remain credible. DPMC is likely to raise this with the Board in their response to the Trust's report, and any relevant aspects will then need to be reflected in the updated 2024 Annual Plan. • The Co-Directors acknowledged that agencies are a priority. Partly a capacity issue for the Centre. A part-time researcher can be dedicated to answering the agencies' questions. Looking further beyond that – seeding funding will address some of that. • The Co-Directors are open to discussing more contestable funding – concern about quality but the Board noted that the Centre needs support researchers across the country as well as being responsive to requirements. Sometimes this will require a quick turn-around for research (e.g. if a Cabinet paper is being produced for a Minister in one or two months). • Dave Moskovitz to spend time with the Co-Directors to develop discovery streams, and a more agile response to urgent questions. <p>Actions raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update the 2024 Annual Plan based on Board feedback and any broader aspects that might be raised by DPMC with the Trust, and resubmit this for consideration by the Board – Co-Directors
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4. *All documents that relate to the appointment of Research Committee members, particularly any that describe reasons for refusing any nominees or criteria for membership.*

DPMC does not hold this information, and I refer you to VUW's response to this part of your request.

5. *All documents that relate to the appointment of Board members, particularly any that describe reasons for refusing any nominees or criteria for membership.*

Please see:

- Item 3 HWT Governance Board expression of interest information.
- Item 4 HWT Governance Board Candidate questions.
- Item 5 Memorandum: He Whenua Taurikura National Centre of Research Excellence Governance Board and Trustee Appointments.
- Item 6 Email from DPMC on HWT Board composition.

In addition, we have identified another document used for shortlisting potential HWT Board members. This document has been withheld in full under the following sections of the Act:

- section 9(2)(a), to protect the privacy of individuals.
- section 9(2)(ba)(i), to protect the supply of similar information in the future.

6. *Any correspondence in which any concerns were raised about the appointment of Research Committee members or board members; or in which there were conduct concerns raised. As per Part 3 above, for Part 6, you asked that “draft documents and commentary be provided.”*

We have understood this part of your request to be for relevant correspondence prepared by the HWT centre and not to include other requests for official information or correspondence received.

DPMC has not identified any relevant correspondence in scope of this part of your request.

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Act. No public interest has been identified that would be sufficient to outweigh the reasons for withholding that information.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

This response will be published on the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet’s website during our regular publication cycle. Typically, information is released monthly, or as otherwise determined. Your personal information including name and contact details will be removed for publication.

Nāku noa, nā



Jeremy Clarke-Watson
Deputy Chief Executive
National Security and Resilience

~~IN CONFIDENCE UNCLASSIFIED~~

He Whenua Taurikura

24 April 2024

Tēnā koe Bridget,

Thank you for your letter of 28 March 2024. We are proud of the considerable achievements of He Whenua Taurikura during the establishment phase and look forward to the significant impact the Centre's research will make to preventing and countering violent extremism in the future.

A board meeting was held on 16 April where your letter was discussed with the Director of He Whenua Taurikura, Professor Joanna Kidman, and the Board. Since then the Board has met for a number of follow-up meetings. I have also met with Matthew Plummer from the Research Office at Te Herenga Waka | Victoria University of Wellington to discuss support of the research strategy going forward.

In focusing on the newly proposed additional condition of ensuring that 25% of the research funding allocation be used to fund projects directly aligned with government priorities there is recognition that many, if not all, of the existing projects align with the research priorities and some work is needed to be done to more clearly reflect this.

To align with the additional condition we have determined that in 2024 the \$165k contestable seed funding round will be allocated based on government agency priorities. The research priorities will be refined through agreement between the CCTC and the Centre. Professor Kidman and Andy George, as Chair of the CTCC, will finalise these priorities. This allocation will make up 20% of the provided research funding. We hope that a change to the additional condition of 20% as opposed to 25% will be agreeable to you. In addition to this the Centre will also identify existing projects that also fulfil the public service agency priorities and include these in future reports to the Board and to DPMC.

Thank you for the support that you have offered to the Centre and to the Board.

Nāku iti noa, nā,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tracey McIntosh', written in a cursive style.

Professor Tracey McIntosh
Acting Chair, He Whenua Taurikura.

From: [Manisha Bhikha \[DPMC\]](#)
To: s9(2)(a): He Whenua Taurikura Board members
Cc: [Andy George \[DPMC\]](#); [Rachel Sutherland \[DPMC\]](#); [Janine Mail \[DPMC\]](#)
Subject: Letter and proposed conditional grant agreement for He Whenua Taurikura Trust
Date: 03 April 2024 10:18:43
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[2024-03-28 HWT Trust 05 12 23\(4835500.1\).pdf](#)
[2023_2024 Conditional grant for He Whenua Taurikura Trust\(4833403.2\).docx](#)

[UNCLASSIFIED]

Kia ora koutou members of the He Whenua Taurikura Trust Board,

I hope you are all well. Please find attached a letter from Bridget White, Executive Director, National Security Group, DPMC and a proposed conditional grant agreement for your review and signing. To discuss the letter or grant agreement please contact Rachel Sutherland, Programme Manager.

Ngā manaakitanga,
Manisha

Manisha Bhikha she/her/Ms
Deputy Counter-Terrorism Strategic Coordinator
National Security Group
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

M s9(2)(a)
E manisha.bhikha@dpmc.govt.nz



Released under the Official Information Act 1982



28 March 2024

Board of He Whenua Taurikura Trust
Vanisa Dhiru
Andy George
Ikhtlaq Kashkari
Tracey McIntosh
Dave Moskovitz

Tēnā koutou

It was good to meet with you all at the Governance Board meeting on 28 February 2024 and to hear your collective views on the Centre's progress and how DPMC can best support you.

Firstly, thank you for previously providing further information to support the Trust's report on the progress of the He Whenua Taurikura National Centre of Research Excellence for the year ended 30 June 2023, in accordance with reporting requirements as part of the conditional grant.

I would like to acknowledge the significant progress that the Board has made in the past year, establishing the Centre and working through the respective roles and responsibilities of both the Centre and the Trust. This establishment phase is inevitably one of the hardest to achieve, but the foundations are now in place to set the Centre up well for success.

I am pleased with the progress the Centre has made to develop a network of researchers from universities across the country, broadening the community of those involved in preventing and countering violent extremism in New Zealand. The increased diversity of perspectives across different academic disciplines is welcomed.

I hope that in broadening the network, all of the existing and established academics with a range of expertise in the field of countering terrorism and violent extremism continue to be included in Centre activities. From a range of conversations that DPMC has had with researchers, there are a small number who seem to not yet view the Centre as a mechanism to support their work, as envisaged by the Royal Commission of Inquiry. I encourage the Trust to work with the Centre and Victoria University of Wellington (VUW) to ensure that this is the case.

The contestable funding that the Centre will be making available to the wider research community in 2024 will hopefully enable research to be supported in a variety of institutions across the country, directly delivering the first of the Trust's purposes. I encourage the Trust to continue to prioritise this activity, ensuring that the research funding provided by DPMC be made available to support projects originating both inside and outside of the Centre.

In addition, I would like to seek your support to ensure that the Centre's work is focused entirely on research directly related to countering terrorism and violent extremism. This is the sole purpose of the Trust and for which the funding provided by DPMC can be used. The threat to New Zealanders – from individuals with a range of identity, faith and political motivations, as well as mixed, unstable and unclear ideologies – remains a pressing one, and the Centre has a critical role to play in supporting our collective work to prevent terrorist attacks and further loss of life.

There is one area that I would like to draw particular attention to in relation to the Centre's priorities – per s4.1(g) of the Deed of Trust:

Defence House, Bowen Street, Wellington, New Zealand 6011

64 4 830 5000 dpmc.govt.nz

4.1 Purpose of trust: *The Trust is established to fund, facilitate and promote research into the prevention and countering of violent extremism in New Zealand by:*

...

- g) providing and facilitating advice to government and other groups and organisations on preventing and countering violent extremism in New Zealand;*

The Centre has an important role in building strong partnerships with those government agencies working on behalf of New Zealanders to prevent and counter violent extremism, by providing a strong evidence base to help ensure that work addressing the evolving terrorism threat that we collectively face is effective. As mentioned in your report though, engagement with government agencies has not yet been operationalised, and this is an area that I recommend that the Trust focus on supporting the Centre to deliver in 2024.

To enable these strong partnerships, I request the support of the Trust to ensure that not less than a quarter (25%) of the research funding being provided by DPMC in 2024 is used by the Centre to directly respond to the research needs of agencies.

This level of focus should ensure that the research that the Centre is supporting is at the heart of national work on terrorism and violent extremism. I encourage the Centre to partner closely with agencies to coordinate the delivery of both long-term and rapid evidence research, conducted by researchers across the country who have expertise on these important issues. Whilst literature reviews might form a part of this, I would expect that most of this funding be made available more broadly to researchers through fully open, transparent, and contestable processes.

I therefore propose to include the following condition within the new conditional grant that will provide the Trust with DPMC's funding for the Centre for 2024:

"One quarter (25%) of the research funding provided be used to directly enable research from across the country that responds to government agency priorities for research into preventing and countering violent extremism, as indicated by DPMC and the Counter Terrorism Coordination Committee (CTCC)."

A copy of the proposed conditional grant is attached for your consideration and signing. This reflects the available DPMC funding levels for the Centre for the current year discussed at the Board meeting, of \$500,000 operating funding and \$825,000 research funding. As discussed, DPMC is no longer able to fund the Trust operating costs of up to \$150,000 going forward so this is the final payment for the Trust.

If you have any comments or questions on this letter, DPMC would be happy to discuss these. Please contact Rachel Sutherland (PCVE Programme Manager, DPMC) in the first instance.

Thank you once again for the significant progress that the Trust Board and the Centre have made in the past year. I look forward to continuing our collective work to support its ongoing development throughout 2024. This letter can be shared with VUW and the Centre as required.

Ngā mihi nui



Bridget White
Executive Director
National Security Group

CONDITIONAL GRANT FOR He Whenua Taurikura – National Centre of Research Excellence (“GRANT”)

Purpose of this Grant

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (the **Department**, or **DPMC**) would like to grant He Whenua Taurikura – National Centre of Research Excellence, a charitable trust with the incorporation number 50135012, (**the Provider**, or **Trust**) a total of **\$1,459,147** excluding GST under the terms and conditions contained in this Grant.

This Grant has been made to the Provider to provide the following Activity/Initiative:

Activity/Initiative	
<p>The Trust was established under the leadership of DPMC to implement recommendation 14 of the Royal Commission of Inquiry report into the terrorist attack on Christchurch masjidain on 15 March 2019 to “establish a programme to fund independent New Zealand-specific research on the causes of, and measures to prevent, violent extremism and terrorism”.</p> <p>This project will provide funding to the Trust for the 2024 Academic year, to enable the operation of the Trust itself, as well as the research and operating costs of the associated He Whenua Taurikura National Centre of Research Excellence (the Centre) hosted by Victoria University of Wellington.</p> <p>DPMC will provide \$2,284,147 (ex. GST) towards the activity, which the Provider may use for the purposes as set out below:</p>	
Amount	Purpose
\$134,147	<p>Costs related to operating the Trust, specifically:</p> <p>\$22,207 for remuneration of the Governance Board chair.</p> <p>\$45,552 in total for remuneration of the other four non-government Board members.</p> <p>\$11,388 Contingency¹ for remuneration of a potential additional non-government Board Member</p> <p>\$40,000 for the Board secretariat.</p> <p>\$15,000 for legal, accountancy, meeting logistics, and other Board costs.</p> <p>¹ The contingency amount is for unexpected costs within this category. This amount must not be used without prior written approval from DPMC.</p>
\$825,000	<p>Research costs of the Centre.</p> <p>This funding is provided to enable the research and other activities relating to the subject matter of the Centre for the 2024 academic year, as agreed in the Annual Strategic Plan and Research Priorities, consistent and aligned with the Trust's purposes as set out in the Trust Deed (Deed of Trust between the CE of DPMC and the trustees of He</p>

	<p>Whenua Taurikura - National Centre of Research Excellence for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism, dated 09/09/22).</p> <p>Unless otherwise agreed with DPMC, this funding is to be provided as soon as practicable and no later than 30 June 2024 to Victoria University of Wellington under the Partnership Agreement with the Trust for the hosting and funding of the Centre (Partnership Agreement between Te Herenga Waka - Victoria University of Wellington and He Whenua Taurikura - National Centre of Research Excellence, dated 29/03/23].</p>
\$500,000	<p>Operating costs of the Centre.</p> <p>This funding is provided to meet the capital and operating needs (not precluding research and other activities relating to the subject matter of the Centre, as agreed in the Annual Strategic Plan and Research Priorities) of the Centre, consistent and aligned with the Trust's purposes as set out in the Trust Deed.</p> <p>These costs include but are not limited to:</p> <p>Remuneration and other staffing costs associated with the employment of the Co-Directors and other Centre staff.</p> <p>Providing a physical location for the Centre and providing all reasonably required support services, including security, marketing, and communications.</p> <p>Maintaining an online presence for the Centre to promote research outputs.</p> <p>Unless otherwise agreed with DPMC, this funding is to be provided as soon as practicable and no later than 30 June 2024 to Victoria University of Wellington under the Partnership Agreement with the Provider for the hosting and funding of the Centre.</p>

Grant Period

This Grant is valid for the approved Activity/Initiative for the period from 1 July 2023 through to 30 June 2024.

Payment Schedule

DPMC will pay the Grant to the Provider as follows:

Payment	Payment is subject to:
\$134,147	Execution of this Agreement
\$1,325,000	Acceptance of the Trust's 2022/2023 Final Report (see Reporting Requirements below) to the satisfaction of DPMC

Invoices shall be sent to dpmcinvoices@cass.govt.nz copying in the DPMC Key Point of Contact. Invoices shall be in PDF format and contain cost code C104-310.

Please note this payment excludes GST. However, payments for GST registered providers will have GST added subject to the terms and conditions of this Grant.

Reporting Requirements

The Provider will complete delivery of the Activity/Initiative and provide a final report to DPMC within 3 months of the completion of the Grant Period. This will report on:

- The Centre's overall Strategic Plan, Annual Plan and Research Priorities, and progress against these during the grant period.
- The Centre's year-to-date spend of this Grant against its annual budget.
- The Trust's assessment of the extent to which the Centre has or is likely to meet its purposes, as set out in s4.1 of the Deed of Trust (between the CE of DPMC and trustees of He Whenua Taurikura – National Centre of Research Excellence for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism, dated 9th September, 2022).

The Provider will also complete delivery of quarterly snapshots of the Trust's assessment of the extent to which the Centre has or is likely to meet its purposes, and progress against the Centre's Annual Plan and Research activities following each quarterly Trust meeting.

Key Points of Contact

The parties' key points of contact are listed below. Key points of contact may change from time to time on written notice. They will be responsible for giving and receiving notices which may be given by post, hand delivery or email, to the details below.

DPMC

Name: Rachel Sutherland
Position: Programme Manager, National Security Group
Phone: s9(2)(a)
Email: rachel.sutherland@dpmc.govt.nz
Address: DPMC, Level 8, Executive Wing, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 8140

Provider:

Position: Chair, He Whenua Taurikura – National Centre of Research Excellence Governance Board
Phone: tbd
Email: tbd
Address: c/o DPMC, Level 8, Executive Wing, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 8140

Terms and Conditions of Grant

DPMC is paying the Grant to the Provider in accordance with the attached Terms and Conditions.

In relation to the Activity/Initiative being funded under this Grant:

Condition #	Additional Condition
1.	Operation and Governance of the Centre in full compliance with the Trust Deed.
2.	Twenty five percent (\$206,250) of the research funding provided be used directly to enable research that responds to government agency priorities for research into preventing and countering violent extremism, as indicated by DPMC and the Counter Terrorism Coordination Committee (CTCC).

Signatures

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Signed by Bridget White Executive Director, National Security Group, DPMC

Signed

Date

He Whenua Taurikura – National Centre of Research Excellence

Signed by Authorised member

I confirm I have the authority to sign for He Whenua Taurikura – National Centre of Research Excellence and confirm this Grant has not been altered from what was last provided by DPMC.

Signed

Date

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF GRANT

The Department is paying the Grant to the Provider under the following terms and conditions:

1. The Provider must:
 - a. Spend the Grant within the Grant Period.
 - b. Spend the Grant only for the Activity/Initiative approved by, and subject to any conditions agreed by, the Parties
 - c. Inform the Department promptly of any proposed funding, from any other source for the Activity/Initiative.
 - d. Subject to clause 5, return to the Department any portion of the Grant that is not spent on the Activity/Initiative. If the Grant payment includes GST, the Grant recipient must also return the GST component of the Grant.
 - e. Complete and furnish a results report when the Grant has been fully spent, or within 12 months after the Grant has been paid, or upon request by the Department (whichever comes first). Or, if awarded a multi-year grant, meet milestone conditions such as providing a results report by due date(s), which will be specified in the Reporting Requirements. Payment of any subsequent Grant instalments may not be made until all the milestone reporting requirements are met in full. All reports must be accurate and provided in a timely manner in the form specified by the Department. Complete monthly reporting in line with the Governance Framework.
 - f. Make any files or records relating to the Activity/Initiative available for inspection within ten (10) working days if requested by the Department.
 - g. Ensure that their organisation has the following minimum set of internal controls in place:
 - i. Two (2) signatories to bank accounts.
 - ii. Maintenance of a cash book or computer equivalent.
 - iii. A person responsible for maintaining financial records.
 - iv. Regular financial reporting to every full meeting of the governing body.
 - h. Keep financial records for seven years after the end of the Grant period that demonstrate how the Grant was spent and enable the Department to carry out an audit to determine whether you are complying or have complied with this Grant (**Audit**).
 - i. Acknowledge the receipt of the Grant as a separate entry in its financial statements, or in a note to its financial statements.
 - j. Inform the Department of any changes that affect the Provider's ability to deliver the Activity/Initiative (e.g., changes to financial situation; an intention to wind-up or cease operations; or any other significant event, or failure to meet child protection standards), before the Grant has been fully used.
 - k. Notify the Department immediately if any of the Grant money is stolen or misappropriated and to notify the Police, or other relevant enforcement agency, as soon as possible.
 - l. Agree that the Department has the authority to publish that the Grant has been made to the Provider for the approved purpose.
 - m. Not do or omit to do anything that brings the Department into disrepute.
 - n. Use its reasonable endeavours to prevent a conflict of interest (whether actual or perceived) from arising. Should one arise, the Provider will notify the Department as soon as possible and the parties will discuss its impact.
2. The Department will make payment of the approved Grant amount upon receipt of a valid tax invoice by the 20th calendar day of the month following the invoice date.

3. Failure to comply with any of the terms and conditions within this Grant, or the provision of false information in the Provider's request to the Department for this Grant, may result, without limitation, in the Department terminating this Grant and:
 - a. requiring repayment of all or part of the Grant within 10 working days;
 - b. withholding payment of this and other Department administered grants until issues are resolved;
 - c. imposing additional terms and conditions before any Department administered funding is approved; and
 - d. recommending to funding approvers at the Department to decline future funding.
4. This Grant is a one-off contribution to the Activity/Initiative for the term. The Department cannot guarantee that there will be any money available to further fund the Activity/Initiative after the term and the Provider should not expect or rely on continuing funding or on funding being rolled over to a subsequent term.
5. At the end of the Grant Period, in any portion of the Grant remains unspent, the Department may elect whether that portion of the Grant:
 - a. is rolled over to a subsequent grant to further fund the Activity/Initiative for a further grant period, or
 - b. is returned to the Department.
6. If the Department does not provide notice of its election under clause 5 any portion of unused funds must be returned to the Department within 20 working days of the end of the Grant Period.
7. For the purpose of gaining or providing information relevant to the funding of the Provider, the Department may disclose to, or obtain information from, any other government department or agency, private person or organisation.
8. The Provider indemnifies the Department in respect of all costs (including legal costs), claims, liabilities, losses, damage and expenses suffered or incurred by the Department as a direct or indirect consequence of any unlawful, negligent, tortious, criminal, reckless or dishonest errors, acts or omissions of the Provider in the performance of its obligations under this Grant.
9. Each party confirms that it has adequate security measures to safeguard the other party's confidential information from unauthorised access or use by third parties, and that it will not use or disclose the other party's confidential information to any person or organisation other than:
 - a. to the extent that use or disclosure is necessary for the purposes of the Activity/Initiative approved by the Department;
 - b. if the other party gives prior written approval to the use or disclosure;
 - c. if the use or disclosure is required by law (including under the Official Information Act 1982), Ministers or parliamentary convention; or
 - d. in relation to disclosure, if the information has already become public, other than through a breach of the obligation of confidentiality by one of the parties.
10. The terms of this Grant may be varied by written agreement between the parties.
11. Each party acknowledges that they have duties and other obligations under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 and applicable Regulations under that Act, in relation to the performance of their obligations under this Grant.
12. The Department may on reasonable notice request an Audit of the Provider's affairs in relation to this Grant. The Audit may be conducted by the Department or by a third party appointed by the Department. Audits will be conducted pursuant to a terms of reference to be agreed. The parties will meet their own Audit costs, unless the Audit reveals a Provider breach of this Grant in which case the Provider will meet the Department Audit costs.

13. After the Audit report is finalised, if the Audit report has revealed a breach by the Provider, the Department may do one or more of the following:
- a. take no further action;
 - b. provide the Provider with notice of the remedial actions it must take to address any issues identified in the Audit report (whether or not those issues constitute a breach of the Grant), and any reports or information the Provider must provide to the Department about those actions;
 - c. negotiate a variation of this Grant with the Provider;
 - d. terminate this Grant; or
 - e. recover all or part of the funding pursuant to clause 3.
14. The Provider must carry out any remedial actions and provide any reports or information about those actions that are set out in the notice provided by the Department under clause 13(b).
15. The Provider must ensure its risks of doing business are adequately covered, whether by insurance or otherwise.

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Governance Board

Expressions of interest are open from 10 March until 5pm 22 April 2022 for membership of the Governance Board for the National Centre of Research Excellence for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism, provisionally called He Whenua Taurikura.

The Centre is being established in 2022 to bring together research organisations and institutes, civil society organisations, and government to research preventing and countering violent extremism, with a focus on understanding diversity and promoting social cohesion.

The work of the Centre is intended to inform public discussion on preventing and countering violent extremism and guide the work of policy agencies across government.

The Board will provide strategic direction for and oversee the work of the Centre. The Board will also be responsible for ensuring the Centre's activities are compatible with its charitable aims, and that the Centre complies with relevant legislative and regulatory requirements. Board members will ordinarily be trustees of the Centre. A copy of the Board's draft Terms of Reference is available below.

The Board shall comprise between six and eight members, to include at least one from each of tangata whenua, academia / research community, civil society and government agencies. Members shall have demonstrated strengths in one or more of the following areas:

- Leadership
- Governance
- Tangata whenua and tangata tiriti partnership
- Strategic thinking
- Financial acumen
- Diversity
- Community linkages
- Subject matter expertise
- Research expertise

Board membership should, to the extent possible given its size, also have a distribution of ages, ethnicities, genders, faith and religious backgrounds, geographies, educational achievements and experiences. We therefore encourage applications from members of a wide range of groups with an interest in the work of this Centre, including Māori, ethnic minority groups, the rainbow community, and religious and faith groups.

Board members shall generally be appointed to serve for a three-year term, with a maximum extension of one additional year. Initial Board appointments shall be made by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) as the lead agency working on the establishment of the Centre.

The deadline for submission of Expressions of Interest is 22 April 2022. Please download and fill in the expression of interest form, and submit via email to HWT@dpmc.govt.nz no later than 5pm on 22 April 2022.

He Whenua Taurikura National Centre of Research Excellence – Governance Board

Name:

1. Centre's role

How do you see the He Whenua Taurikura National Centre of Research Excellence contributing to addressing issues of violent extremism in Aotearoa New Zealand?

[Looking for an understanding of the Centre and a positive vision for the role it will play]

2. Governance Board's role

What role do you see the Governance Board playing for the Centre?

[Looking for an understanding of the governance role (esp vs the management role of the Directors) and its importance]

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3. Skills and experience

Please can you discuss your skills and experience in relation to this Board, and the role that you might undertake as a member?

4. Diversity and conflict

Part of the role of the Governance Board is fostering constructive relationships that encourage a broad and diverse range of stakeholders to engage with and benefit from the Centre. We are also committed that the Board should, to the extent possible given its size, have a distribution of various aspects of diversity, including strong Māori representation. There is therefore likely to be a very diverse range of perspectives and the potential for differences of opinion.

Please can you talk about how you handle conflict and your approach with people whose view may differ from yours.

5. Questions

Do you have any questions for us about the Board or Centre?



Memorandum

HE WHENUA TAURIKURA NATIONAL CENTRE OF RESEARCH EXCELLENCE – GOVERNANCE BOARD AND TRUSTEE APPOINTMENTS

To	Tony Lynch, Chief Executive, DPMC	Prepared by	Andy George, Counter-Terrorism Strategic Coordinator, NSG
From	Dan Eaton, Deputy Chief Executive, National Security Group (NSG)	Date	11/07/2022

Purpose

- This memo seeks Chief Executive approval for the appointment of the Governance Board members and Trustees of the He Whenua Taurikura National Centre of Research Excellence, as well as approval for the level of remuneration / fees.

Recommendations

- Agree** the appointment of the following individuals as initial Governance Board members and Trustees of the He Whenua Taurikura – National Centre of Research Excellence for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism charitable trust, for an initial period not to exceed three years: **YES / NO**
 - Bernie O'Donnell
 - Dave Moskovitz
 - Ikhlaq Kashkari
 - Tracey McIntosh
 - Vanisa Dhiru
- Agree** the appointment of Andy George, Counter-Terrorism Strategic Coordinator, NSG, DPMC as the initial government agency member of the Governance Board and as a Trustee of the charitable trust under rule 4.1 in the Second Schedule of the Deed of Trust. **YES / NO**


3. **Agree** to the remuneration of the Governance Board members and Trustees (other than the government agency member) at the following rates:

YES / NO

- Chair – \$21,190 per annum.
- Board member – \$10,355 per annum.

4. **Note** that the two Directors of the Centre, Professor Joanna Kidman and Distinguished Professor Paul Spoonley, will be ex officio affiliates of the Board.


Dan Eaton Acting Deputy Chief Executive National Security Group
13/07/2022

AGREED

Tony Lynch Chief Executive
14/07/2022

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Background

1. He Whenua Taurikura is New Zealand's National Centre of Research Excellence for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism. He Whenua Taurikura translates to 'a country at peace'.
2. He Whenua Taurikura was established in response to recommendation 14 of the Royal Commission of Inquiry report into the terrorist attack on Christchurch masjidain to "establish a programme to fund independent New Zealand-specific research on the causes of, and measures to prevent, violent extremism and terrorism".
3. The Centre was launched by the Prime Minister on 3 June 2022 and brings together research organisations and institutes, civil society organisations, and government to research preventing and countering violent extremism, with a focus on understanding diversity and promoting social cohesion.
4. The Centre's Governance Board will provide strategic direction for and oversee the work of He Whenua Taurikura. The Board will also be responsible for ensuring the Centre's activities are compatible with its charitable aims, and that the Centre complies with relevant legislative and regulatory requirements.
5. The Board shall comprise between six and eight members, with strong Māori representation reflecting a Te Tiriti partnership approach between Māori and the Crown. Board membership shall also include at least one from each of academia / research community, civil society and government agencies.
6. The Board should, to the extent possible given its size, also have a distribution of ages, ethnicities, genders, faith and religious backgrounds, disabilities, geographies, educational achievements and experiences.
7. The Centre is being established as a charitable trust. Board members should ordinarily be appointed as Trustees for this charitable trust, subject to appointment by the Chief Executive DPMC.
8. Trustees (and hence, ordinarily, Board members) are appointed to hold office for a term not exceeding three years from the date of appointment. Trustees shall be eligible for reappointment for a further term of one year by a simple majority of the Trustees, which must include the government official appointed by the Chief Executive.
9. Decisions on appointment to the Board and as Trustees for the Centre's charitable trust rest with the Chief Executive, DPMC.

Selection Process

10. A public call for expressions of interest for the Governance Board was published on the DPMC website on 22 March 2022 and closed on 22 April 2022. 57 expressions of interest were received and assessed by a DPMC panel of:
 - Andy George, Counter-Terrorism Strategic Coordinator, NSG.
 - Julia Macdonald, Principal Policy Advisor, NSG.
 - Julian Grey, Director, National Assessments Bureau (NAB), NSG.

- Paul Ash, Prime Minister's Special Representative on Cyber and Digital, Christchurch Call and Cyber Coordinator, Policy Advisory Group (PAG) / NSG.


11. The field of candidates was exceptionally strong and 18 candidates were initially shortlisted, with 11 progressed for interviewing. These interviews were conducted online by Andy George and Julia Macdonald in late June and early July 2022, and the recommendations arising from these discussed and endorsed by the other panel members.

Recommended Governance Board Members and Trustees

12. The following five non-government individuals are recommended for appointment as initial Governance Board members and Trustees of the He Whenua Taurikura – National Centre of Research Excellence for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism charitable trust, for an initial period not to exceed three years:


- **Bernie O'Donnell** – Bernie is a business consultant and professional director. He is on a number of boards, including as chairman of Manukau Urban Māori Authority, Directorships on Whānau Ora Commissioning Agency, National Urban Māori Authority, the Independent statutory entity charged with revitalising te reo Māori, Te Whakaruruhau o Ngā Reo Irirangi Māori, the confederation of iwi radio stations. He is a current member of the Kāpuia Ministerial Advisory Group.

s9(2)(a), s9(2)(ba)(i)




- **Dave Moskovitz** – Dave is a professional director and startup investor. He was involved in the establishment of several angel investment and startup support organisations, and is a director for a number of startups and larger organisations such as Open Polytechnic and InternetNZ. He is a prominent member of the Jewish community and is the Jewish co-chair of the Wellington Abrahamic Council of Jews, Christians and Muslims.

s9(2)(a), s9(2)(ba)(i)



- **Ikhlāq Kashkari** – Ikhlāq is the President of New Zealand Muslim Association (NZMA) and member of the FIANZ Council. He has held senior management positions in NZ and overseas helping organisations improve their business performance and governance, as well as working with Board members and management teams to help build robust business processes and governance structures which are aligned to their business and operational strategies.

s9(2)(a), s9(2)(ba)(i)



- **Tracey McIntosh** – Tracey is Ngāi Tūhoe and is Professor of Indigenous Studies and Co-Head of Te Wānanga o Waipapa (School of Māori Studies and Pacific Studies) at the University of Auckland. She is the Chief Science Advisor for the Ministry of Social Development and a Commissioner of Te Kāhui Tātari Ture: Criminal Cases Review Commission. She was the former Co-Director of Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga New Zealand's Māori Centre of Research Excellence.

s9(2)(a), s9(2)(ba)(i)

- **Vanisa Dhiru** – Vanisa has an extensive community advocacy, governance and management background with a focus on diversity and equity, particularly in the digital equity space. She is currently Community Manager for InternetNZ and holds commissioner roles with the NZ National Commission of UNESCO and the Library & Information Advisory Commission. She is also currently appointed to the Department of Internal Affairs He Tohu Board, Lottery Wellington-Wairarapa Community Committee, the Spark Foundation and Victoria University's Wellington School of Business & Government Advisory Board.

s9(2)(a), s9(2)(ba)(i)

13. In addition, it is recommended that **Andy George**, Counter-Terrorism Strategic Coordinator, NSG be appointed as the initial government agency member of the Governance Board and as a Trustee of the charitable trust under rule 4.1 in the Second Schedule of the Deed of Trust.
14. The two Directors of the Centre, Professor Joanna Kidman and Distinguished Professor Paul Spoonley, will be ex officio affiliates of the Board. They will ordinarily participate in all Board meetings but may be requested not to attend for specific items at the discretion of the Chair, with the reason for this being noted clearly in the meeting minutes. They hold no formal voting or other rights as part of Board decisions.

Recommended Remuneration / Fees

15. Responsibility for determining the remuneration of the Governance Board members and Trustees under rests with the Chief Executive, DPMC.
16. The recommended remuneration below has been determined using the Cabinet Fees Framework¹ for members appointed to bodies in which the Crown has an interest, published by the Public Service Commission (PSC).
17. Under this framework, the He Whenua Taurikura Board is assessed as a general Governance Board (Group 3a) with a budget / turnover of \$0-\$10m and a prime function of funding disbursement, under \$20m. Recommended remuneration is therefore at level 5 of Group 3a, and it is recommended that this be at the mid-point of the respective fees range at this level:

¹ <https://www.publicservice.govt.nz/assets/Legacy/resources/CO-19-1-Fees-Framework-for-members-appointed-to-bodies-in-which-the-Crown-has-an-interest.pdf>

- **Chair**² – \$21,190 per annum.
 - **Board member** – \$10,355 per annum.
18. Actual and reasonable costs for attending Board meetings, or conducting other Board duties, outside the member's home city / town will also be reimbursed.
 19. Remuneration / fees and other actual and reasonable costs will be taken either from the non-departmental appropriation for the operation of the Centre, or from other DPMC budgets as appropriate.
 20. For clarity, the government agency member of the Board is not entitled to remuneration separate to their normal agency salary. Any costs associated with their role as a Board member and Trustee will be borne by their employing agency, in this case DPMC.

Next Steps

21. Governance Board members will be formally notified, and the Deed of Trust finalised to include them as Trustees.
22. An initial meeting of the Board will be hosted by DPMC in July / August 2022, and a Chair appointed.

² The Chair to be determined by the Board and will serve for a two-year term as Chair, with a maximum extension of a single additional term.

From: Andy George

Sent: Monday, 11 April 2022 11:35 am

To: s9(2)(a): Representatives of NZ Jewish Council and Federation of Islamic Associations of NZ

Cc: Tony Lynch [DPMC] <Tony.Lynch@dpmc.govt.nz> s9(2)(a): Representative of NZ Jewish Council and Federation

Subject: RE: He Whenua Taurikura – Board Composition [UNCLASSIFIED]

[UNCLASSIFIED]

Kia ora both s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a) thank you for your letter to Tony and also to you s9(2)(a) for your email. It's good to have you both providing input and support as we progress the establishment of this important research centre.

As you would expect from DPMC, we are committed to diversity in the membership of the Centre's Governance Board and we've specifically put in the call for expressions of interest that we would particularly welcome applications from religious and faith groups. We are hoping this includes some strong candidates coming from both the Jewish and Muslim communities, as clearly this is an area where both communities have a specific interest and who we expect the Centre to be working very closely in partnership with.

To enable this, the key at this stage is to get strong candidates submitting applications that meet the skills and capabilities that are required on the Governance Board. I know you will already have been promoting this Board across your communities, and there will be many strong candidates who would bring the skills that the Board will need. But anything further you can do to assist in bringing this to people's attention and encouraging them to submit an expression of interest would be very helpful.

The information applicants will need is on the [DPMC website](#) and we can also talk with people or answer questions if this would help. Expressions of interest close on 22 April.

Ngā mihi, Andy

Andy George

Counter-Terrorism Strategic Coordinator

National Security Group

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

P s9(2)(a)

E andy.george@dpmc.govt.nz



From: s9(2)(a): Representative of Federation of Islamic Associations of NZ
Date: Saturday, 09 Apr 2022, 7:13 AM
To: s9(2)(a): Representative of NZ Jewish Council
Cc: Tony Lynch [DPMC] <Tony.Lynch@dpmc.govt.nz>, s9(2)(a): Representative of NZ Jewish Council and Federation
s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: He Whenua Taurikura – Board Composition

Shalom s9(2)(a)

Thanks for sharing your letter to DPMC. FIANZ has similar view on the make up of the He Whenua Taurikura.

Kind regards

s9(2)(a)
NIPR, FIANZ

On 8/04/2022, at 3:22 PM s9(2)(a): Representative of NZ Jewish Council wrote:

Hi Tony

Please see the attached letter regarding the Board

Regards

<image003.png><[image004.png](#)>

<He Whenua Taurikura – Board Composition.pdf>

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