Te Ara Paerangi - Future Pathways submission form

Welcome

Kia ora and welcome to the Te Ara Paerangi - Future Pathways Green Paper submission form. This is an important part of the Government's intention to start a wide-ranging and considered conversation about the future of New Zealand's Research, Science and Innovation system. Making a submission provides you the opportunity to help shape the future of this system.

First we ask for information about you, the submitter, and then the form follows the consultation guiding questions as set out on pages 13-15 of the [Green Paper](). After the submitter information part, each section has several open-ended questions. These reflect key themes about which we want to receive your input and responses.

Section 1: Contact information

Section 2: Submitter information

Section 3: Research Priorities

Section 4: Te Tiriti, mātauranga Māori, and Māori aspirations

Section 5: Funding

Section 6: Institutions

Section 7: Research workforce

Section 8: Research infrastructure

You do not need to answer all questions. As described on page 10 of the Green Paper, MBIE intends to publish submissions on its website.

The closing date for submissions is 16 March 2022. Please send your submission to [futurepathways@mbie.govt.nz]().

Section 1: submitter contact information

1.	**Name**	Alex Hickman, Georgia Patching, Alice Boyd, Rose Kuru,
Privacy - 9(2)(a)		
3.	**Can MBIE publish your name and contact information with your submission?** **Confidentiality notice:** Responding "no" to this question does not guarantee that we will not release the name and contact information your provided, if any, as we may be required to do so by law. It does mean that we will contact you if we are considering releasing submitter contact information that you have asked that we keep in confidence, and we will take your request for confidentiality into account when making a decision on whether to release it.	Yes
4	**Can MBIE contact you in relation to your submission?**	Yes

Section 2: Submitter information

In this section, we ask a few questions about you as an individual respondent, or the organisation this submission represents. We request this information to help us understand how viewpoints differ amongst different people and types of organisations within the science, research and innovation sector.

5.	**Are you submitting as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?**	Group

Section 2: Submitter information - individual

Delete this section if you are submitting for an organisation.

6.	**Are you a researcher or scientist?**	No
7.	Privacy - 9(2)(a)	

8.	Privacy - 9(2)(a)
9.	
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Section 3: Research Priorities

In this section, we ask for information to help us understand the principles and process through which we should determine the scope and focus of Research Priorities, as well as how we can deliver research most effectively in relation to the Priorities.

(See pages 24-27 of the Green Paper for context on these questions)

Note you do not have to provide an answer to each question if you prefer not to.

11. Priorities design: What principles could be used to determine the scope and focus of research Priorities?   See page 27 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question.
When looking at the scope and focus of research priorities, ensure they are topics affecting Aotearoa and that research, regardless of the science discipline, fits into specific priorities to better bolter research in that area.   Consider aspects of the priorities i.e will this research involve the use of Taonga species and how will researchers involved be trained to handle such species not only with care but with respect to tikanga and the mana associated with the species

12. Priority-setting process: What principles should guide a national research Priority-setting process, and how can the process best give effect to Te Tiriti?   See pages 28-29 of the Green Paper for additional information related to this question.
Principles used in decision making when considering the Research priority setting process should be linked to the provisions outlined in both te tiriti and the treaty to ensure that both documents are upheld to the best of the Crowns ability. This process would honour Te Tiriti by upholding the agreements that Māori entered into with the Crown when Te Tiriti was first established.   If Research provisions are to involve Māori and their hāpu then the hāpu in question must reach a consensus on research/projects moving forward on their whenua. Once a

consensus is made, researchers involved will need to be willing to undergo cultural training to ensure they respect the hāpus tīkanga and whenua while they are researching on it.

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13. **Operationalising Priorities: How should the strategy for each national research Priority be set and how to we operationalise them?**

See page 30-33 of the Green Paper for the additional information related to this question.

Strategy for each national research priority should be set by experts in related fields and the committee of experts needs to be diverse (i.e Māori, Pakeha, Social Science, Ethics etc) however the committee needs to abide by rules set in place by the government (i.e cannot drain funding from one priority for another, cannot approve unethical research, must conduct cost benefit analysis)

Section 4: Te Tiriti, mātauranga Māori, and Māori aspirations

In this section, we ask for information to help us understand how Māori want to engage throughout the reform process including beyond this consultation, how we can facilitate the application of mātauranga Māori throughout the research system, and views on regionally-based Māori knowledge hubs.

(See pages 36-37 of the Green Paper for context on these questions)

Note you do not have to provide an answer to each question if you prefer not to.

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14. **Engagement: How should we engage with Māori and Treaty Partners?**

See page 38 of the Green Paper for the additional information related to this question.

Any government entity or representative should approach Māori/Treaty Partners following tikanga, Te kawa o Rohe, and Manaakitanga. It is also important for a relationship to be built prior to research being undertaken. For example, Powhiri, Whakatau, Whakawhanaungatanga etc. This relationship needs to be maintained and upheld even after the research is completed showing appreciation towards tangata whenua and the resources/time they have given to researchers.

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15. **Mātauranga Māori: What are your thoughts on how to enable and protect mātauranga Māori in the research system?**

See page 38-39 of the Green Paper for the additional information related to this question.

Discussions need to be held about how the knowledge will be used/distributed before any

Mātauranga can be shared. Researchers need to be transparent with their intentions and give them the option to retract knowledge as this can lead to an extractive relationship between researchers and Māori where their knowledge is removed from the people and the cultural setting that it was created in and becomes assimilated into western science. It is also important for people to receive koha, or some kind of benefit from sharing their knowledge, otherwise a constructive relationship becomes difficult to maintain as researchers continue to take with reciprocating.

16. **Regionally based Māori knowledge hubs: What are your thoughts on regionally based Māori knowledge hubs?**

See page 33-39 of the Green Paper for the additional information related to this question.

Regionally based Māori knowledge hubs would be one of the only ways that would work to establish such facilities as it would acknowledge Māoritanga and the different knowledge that each Hāpu has accumulated through their experience in their own whenua. However these knowledge hubs would need to be sanctioned by the Hāpu/Maraes of the area their located in as without their awhi, these knowledge hubs wouldn't be supporting Māori in the area.

Section 5: Funding

In this section, we ask for information to help us define "core functions" and how they should be funded as well as your views on a base grant funding model.

(See pages 42-43 of the Green Paper for context on these questions)

Note you do not have to provide an answer to each question if you prefer not to.

17. **Core functions: How should we decide what constitutes a core function, and how do we fund them?**

See page 44-46 of the Green Paper for the additional information related to this question.

Any activities or topics that fall under Critical Research that New Zealand could not continue to function without automatically falls under the category of a core function. Furthermore, research that actively works to benefit New Zealand, such as weather monitoring or seismic activity monitoring, could constitute a core function as without their information New Zealand could face danger from natural disasters and they benefit people in day-to-day life.

If something is a core function, then it should receive a set amount of base funding from the government while still being able to apply for extra money through grants or through private contracts given that these contracts do not influence the quality of service they provide to other New Zealanders

18. **Establishing a base grant and base grant design: Do you think a base grant funding model will improve stability and resilience for research organisations?**

See page 46-49 of the Green Paper for the additional information related to this question.

Yes

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19. **Establishing a base grant and base grant design: How should we go about designing and implementing such a funding model?**

See page 46-49 of the Green Paper for the additional information related to this question.

When allocating funding, look at success of the different research organisations, as well as the cost of conducting their research (time and labour required, equipment needed etc) and use that to decide who needs what amount of funding.

Section 6: Institutions

In this section, we ask for information to help us understand how institutional forms can serve current and future needs, how institutions can support workforce development, and how we can improve coordination of capital works.

(See pages 52-56 of the Green Paper for context on these questions)

Note you do not have to provide an answer to each question if you prefer not to.

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20. **Institution design: How do we design collaborative, adaptive, and agile research institutions that will serve current and future needs?**

See page 57-58 of the Green Paper for the additional information related to this question.

The biggest roadblock to creating collaborative and agile research institutes is the needless competition rampant within the scientific community. To generate more collaboration, it needs to be incentivised or the competitive aspect needs to be removed. Adaptive environments are created when new people enter the space and new knowledge/ideas are allowed to flourish. Making it easier for research teams to hire a diverse crew would enable the flexibility and adaptability desired by the green paper.

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21. **Role of institutions in workforce development: How can institutions be designed to better support capability, skill and workforce development?**

See page 58 of the Green Paper for the additional information related to this question.

Institutions (both tertiary education and Research) need to be responsible for giving students opportunities to develop skills that will aid them in the workforce prior to them actually entering the work force such as social skills, technical skills, and time management skills. These can be implemented through better collaboration between Universitis/Polytechnics/Wānanga's and Research institutes to create opportunities such as internships where students are a driving force behind the research and workshops/hui's that develop these skills within Rangatahi.

22. **Better coordinated property and capital investment: How should we make decisions on large property and capital investments under a more coordinated approach?**

See page 58-59 of the Green Paper for the additional information related to this question.

23. **Institution design and Te Tiriti: How do we design Tiriti-enabled institutions?**

See page 59 of the Green Paper for the additional information related to this question.

They should be designed around the traditional sharing of knowledge that Māori have developed through our purakau, and our oral history to better develop our understanding of the natural world around us. These institutions will also need a strong Māori presence as anything based around Te Tiriti would need a whakapapa Māori aspect to ensure the space is tika to the Kaupapa.

24. **Knowledge exchange: How do we better support knowledge exchange and impact generation? What should be the role of research institutions in transferring knowledge into operational environments and technologies?**

See page 60-63 of the Green Paper for the additional information related to this question.

Knowledge needs to be accessible to the general population and beyond. This means not just widely available in electronic and physical databases, but also easily understood by those with little to no scientific experience as this knowledge may still be of use to them in their profession or day to day lives. Researchers involved with knowledge to be implemented into operational environments should be open to holding a hui to help explain what the research means and how it can work in the space. These huis would have Māori aspects to them (karakia before and after korero)

Section 7: Research workforce

In this section, we want information to help us understand how workforce considerations affect Research Priorities and how base grant funding would affect the research workforce, as well as information to help us design funding focused on workforce outcomes.

(See pages 66-68 of the for context on these questions)

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25. Workforce and research Priorities: How should we include workforce considerations in the design of national research Priorities?

See page 69-70 of the Green Paper for the additional information related to this question.

The green paper states that Māori researchers and research leaders would be critical for most research priority areas. However, Māori are severely underrepresented in science institutes. To avoid simply taking Māori away from their existing roles and placing them into a new Māori tailored position, These positions need to be advertised outside of the already present workforce and discussed in depth with Māori researchers already in the work force to see how institutes should be hiring for the position.

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26. Base grant and workforce: What impact would a base grant have on the research workforce?

See page 70-71 of the Green Paper for the additional information related to this question.

A base grant could offer more attractive, stable, and diverse positions while also allowing for more resources to be focused on training individuals for their roles in the work force. Current research institutes see scientists working overtime and working outside the scope of their job position (i.e Research associate also working as a Māori consultant without hours allocated to that area). If base grants could help hire more people or provide greater income for those who regularly work outside their usual work requirements, then we could see more retention and more uptake in the scientific field.

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27. Better design funding mechanisms: How do we design new funding mechanisms that strongly focus on workforce outcomes?

See page 72 of the Green Paper for the additional information related to this question.

Ensure that funding is given accordingly to support the work outcomes desired. i.e if the desired outcome requires information obtained from hours of sampling freshwater environments followed by MCI then give funding that will pay for the work without subtracting funding from other areas that also need it.

Section 8: Research infrastructure

In this section, we want information to help us understand how we can improve the efficacy of investment in research infrastructure.

(See pages 74-76 of the for context on these questions)

28. **Funding research infrastructure: How do we support sustainable, efficient, and enabling investment in research infrastructure?**

See page 77-78 of the Green Paper for the additional information related to this question.

Prioritising the needs of research companies actively contributing to benefit Aotearoa i.e those with a lot of core functions, those researching mass issues such as infectious diseases and climate change, those with strong focus on Te Ao Māori values.