National Alcohol Harm Minimisation Framework

Te Tiriti o Waitangi

- Ōritetanga: Support and invest in Māori harm minimisation approaches, delivered by Māori
- Kāwanatanga: Actively enable equitable self-governance by Māori
- Tino Rangatiratanga: Remove barriers so Māori can exercise authority over their own health and wellbeing
- Ōritetanga: Establish measurable goals to help eliminate alcohol harm inequity and bring about health and wellbeing equity

Policy Change
- Pro-equity and pro-Te Tiriti regulatory change, in line with SAFER
- Investment that supports Māori-led initiatives and policy change
- Partner with Māori to address the historic trauma Māori experience from alcohol harm
- Be informed by community priorities, across all levels
- Devolve resources to non-Crown entities and communities

Culture Change
- Improve health literacy and support hapū/whānau or hapori agency
- Support communities to be drivers of change
- Develop population level messaging
- Reduce reliance on alcohol at social occasions and life milestones
- Make hazardous drinking socially unacceptable
- Reduce stigmas
- Delay uptake

Manage Supply
- Restrict access and availability
- Increase purchase age
- Strengthen enforcement of alcohol laws

Reduce Demand
- Remove alcohol advertising and sponsorship
- Increase price

Limit Impact
- Normalise alcohol assessments at health and social sector services
- Improve access to treatment
- Improve drink driving countermeasures

Mobilise Communities
- Pro-equity and pro-Te Tiriti regulatory change, in line with SAFER
- Investment that supports Māori-led initiatives and policy change
- Partner with Māori to address the historic trauma Māori experience from alcohol harm
- Be informed by community priorities, across all levels
- Devolve resources to non-Crown entities and communities

De-normalise Alcohol
- Improve health literacy and support hapū/whānau or hapori agency
- Support communities to be drivers of change
- Develop population level messaging
- Reduce reliance on alcohol at social occasions and life milestones
- Make hazardous drinking socially unacceptable
- Reduce stigmas
- Delay uptake

Engage All Sectors
- Increase protective factors
- Address determinants of health and wellbeing
- Prioritise the needs of vulnerable people and communities

Aotearoa free from alcohol-related harm
Development Process

In the absence of a current national alcohol harm strategy, framework or action plan, Te Hiringa Hauora engaged with others to develop a new Te Tiriti-aligned National Alcohol Harm Minimisation Framework in 2020.

The Framework has drawn on the recommendations of previous government reviews and the WHO SAFER Initiative. It is based on national and international evidence of both ongoing alcohol-related harm and what works to address it: strong regulation and ensuring alcohol is in its appropriate place in Aotearoa New Zealand. The Framework reflects the voices of who we engaged during its development.

The vision was to identify a holistic framework developed with a Te Tiriti lens as a resource that would enable any organisation, regardless of their size, from government departments to school Boards of Trustees, sports clubs, marae, communities etc, to develop their own action plan for minimising alcohol-related harm.

Alongside this, Te Hiringa Hauora is publishing organisational position statements on key issues relating to alcohol harm in Aotearoa New Zealand. In addition we will continue to engage with Government in supporting a review of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012.

The Framework has two key pillars: policy change and culture change. The Framework is committed to:

1. the principles and obligations of Te Tiriti o Waitangi
2. the elimination of inequity
3. social, environmental and economic sustainability by:
   a. ensuring healthy lives and wellbeing
   b. reducing inequality, and
   c. ensuring sustainable consumption and product use patterns.
4. the enhancement of wellbeing through:
   a. creating public policies which enhance healthy behaviours
   b. strengthening community action
   c. re-orienting health services
   d. creating supportive environments, and
   e. developing personal skills.
5. minimising harm from alcohol use by:
   a. reducing harm that is already occurring (problem limitation)
   b. reducing the desire to use alcohol (demand reduction), and
   c. preventing or reducing the availability of alcohol (supply control).

Alcohol Harm in Aotearoa

- Alcohol is easy to access and increasingly affordable.
- Alcohol is widely promoted in family-orientated environments and to young people.
- The regulatory system does not address the most effective recommendations of the New Zealand Law Commission 2010 report or the World Health Organization SAFER Initiative for alcohol harm reduction.
- Alcohol is linked to more than 200 disease and injury conditions.
- Men are over 2x more likely to die from drinking alcohol than women.
- The death rate from drinking alcohol is disproportionately higher for Māori.
- Alcohol is known to be a factor in 1 in 5 fatal crashes.
- Alcohol is linked to more than 200 disease and injury conditions.
- 2 in 5 offences that involve assault, abduction, robbery, threats or damage to property.
- 1 in 3 family violence incidents are known to involve alcohol.

Key facts about drinking in New Zealand

- Harms from drinking alcohol
  - Alcohol causes harm to whānau and communities.
  - Alcohol is a group 1 carcinogen and drives health and social inequities.
  - Alcohol creates significant costs in the health and justice sectors.

The role of Te Hiringa Hauora

The New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000 (the Act) provides Te Hiringa Hauora with the legislative mandate for independent advice and recommendations to Government, and other agencies, to keep alcohol harm minimisation a Government priority and raising awareness of the harmfullness of alcohol.

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1. The government’s most recent alcohol specific strategy was the National Alcohol Strategy 2000-2003 (developed in 2001 by Alcohol Advisory Council of New Zealand and Ministry of Health).
2. https://www.who.int/substance_abuse/safer/motion/SAFER_Framework.pdf?ua=1
4. https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/ottawa-charter-for-health-promotion