

Hōkai Tapuwae is an alternative to the current Section 27 cultural report for those who identify as Māori

What is a Hōkai Tapuwae report?

- Hōkai Tapuwae is a **kaupapa Māori kōrero** therapeutic intervention that **results in a written report** that will be provided to the Court.
- The **providers are Māori organisations** that have been selected and approved by Ara Poutama Aotearoa / Department of Corrections based on their **mātauranga, lived experience and mana**.
- The provider will identify the **cultural strengths** of the person to enhance their cultural identity.
- Te Whare Tapa Whā (wellbeing cornerstones of Māori health) guides the kōrero.
- The Hōkai Tapuwae report may be read alongside a Provision of Advice to the Courts (PAC) Report.

Who is eligible for a Hōkai Tapuwae report?

- The criteria for participation in the process are that **guilt needs to be established**, the person must **identify as Māori** and they must **provide consent** (therefore a Hōkai Tapuwae report can not be ordered or directed by the Court).
 - These reports are available for those remanded in custody or on bail; any gender; for any type of offending and offending history; any risk classification (ROC*ROI); and any security classification.
 - Reports will be completed within 20 working days of receipt of referral. Please factor this in when you consider setting the sentencing date.
 - The person can have any connection to **Te Ao Māori**. There is no need for them to understand te reo Māori; tikanga Māori, or know their whakapapa or marae.

Why request a Hōkai Tapuwae report?

- The information in the Hōkai Tapuwae report is provided to the Court under **Section 27 of the Sentencing Act 2002**. See table on next page that compares Hōkai Tapuwae reports to the current Section 27 Reports.
- This is an opportunity for the person to have their **Māori identity recognised**, and (where available) the voice of their whānau heard.
- If during the kōrero opportunities are identified under a taha (cornerstone), the report will provide **self-managed next steps** focussed on enhancing their whānau, wairua, hinengaro, tinana, and Te Ao Māori.
- If there are aspects of the report the person doesn't understand, or needs more explanation of, through their lawyer, they can **request a free feedback session** with the provider.
- Hōkai Tapuwae is fully funded by Ara Poutama Aotearoa / Department of Corrections.

How do lawyers obtain a Hōkai Tapuwae report?

- Lawyers must obtain consent from their client to seek referral. Consent forms can be obtained by:
 - Downloading a copy from the Hōkai Tapuwae page on the Ara Poutama Aotearoa / Department of Correction external website <https://www.corrections.govt.nz/>
- Please email the consent form to **LegalHokaiTapuwae@corrections.govt.nz**. So long as the details are clear, a photo of the completed consent form can be attached to the referral request.
- A team at Ara Poutama Aotearoa / Department of Corrections National Office will make the referral.
- Once consent has been obtained, and a referral made, the report will be paid for by Ara Poutama Aotearoa / Department of Corrections.

The difference between the current Section 27 Reports and the new Hōkai Tapuwae Reports

Current Section 27 Reports	Hōkai Tapuwae Reports
Ethnicity Any	Ethnicity Must identify as Māori*
Referral and funding Lawyer organises through Ministry of Justice, and it is paid for via Legal Aid. Or the person can fund it themselves	Referral and funding Once the lawyer has obtained consent from their client they email the consent form to LegalHokaiTapuwae@corrections.govt.nz Referral and funding is completed by Ara Poutama Aotearoa / Department of Corrections
Format Depends on the writer of the report	Format Each report uses Te Whare Tapa Whā model and provides self-managed next steps to support the person with their cultural journey, and provides insights for the probation officer / case manager while that person is on sentence
Timeframes Not prescribed	Timeframes Providers are contracted to produce reports within 20 working days from receipt of referral. A copy of the report will be sent to the lawyer and will be retained by Ara Poutama Aotearoa / Department of Corrections
Provider / writer Not prescribed	Provider / writer Each provider/writer has been approved based on their tikanga, local knowledge and mana, and have been trained by Ara Poutama Aotearoa / Department of Corrections
Section 27 information Information can be provided under Section 27 of the Sentencing Act	Section 27 information Information can be provided under Section 27 of the Sentencing Act <small>*Unfortunately this does not include Cook Island Māori</small>

“Just imagine what the person could do if they’re motivated, if they’re reconnected, and their energies are focussed on where they should be.
It’d be wonderful wouldn’t it?””

For all referrals please email LegalHokaiTapuwae@corrections.govt.nz

For all general questions and queries please email HokaiTapuwae@corrections.govt.nz