

Te Arawhiti's funding support for iwi in their responses to COVID-19

Introduction

This document provides the guidelines for the administration and management of Te Arawhiti's funding support for iwi in their responses to COVID-19.

Overview

On 22 March 2020 the Government announced its plan to support Māori communities and businesses through COVID-19.

\$56.4 million was prioritised by the Government to support Māori communities and businesses. This included \$470,000 to support iwi with their response to COVID-19.

Delegations

Funding decisions will be made by the Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti, on advice from Te Arawhiti.

Criteria

- This funding is to support iwi with their responses to the COVID-19 pandemic, as an example funding could be used to:
 - prepare pandemic response plans;
 - design and produce iwi communications material,
 - support community response team activities (e.g. outreach).
- Priority for funding will be given to iwi who are yet to settle.
- Requests for funding are expected to be between \$5,000 to \$20,000, however requests over this amount will be considered on a case by case basis in exceptional circumstances. These may include, an iwi:
 - is yet to settle
 - is in an area where COVID-19 has been transmitted through the community or there are many COVID-19 cases identified, and
 - is in a remote area.



- This funding is limited to supporting recognised and representative iwi groups, including:
 - Post-Settlement Government Entities
 - Mandated Iwi Organisations
 - Settlement Negotiations Mandated Entities, and
 - Other representative groups.

Process for assessing funding

Iwi need to request the funding directly or as a part of their conversations with Te Arawhiti. Each funding request should include detail of:

- Whether you've been in contact with local or central government so far, and are you delivering an agreed service?
- Whether you have any response initiatives underway (or that you want to get going)?
- The details of your funding request: the initiatives you are looking to do and their associated costs, and
- Whether you are comfortable for us to share your information in coordinating between iwi and government.

Te Arawhiti will assess each request based on:

- The suitability of each request to be funded from the Te Arawhiti appropriation
- Whether there are opportunities to refer iwi or groups of iwi to national delivery agencies with reprioritised Māori funding (the wider Maori COVID-19 assistance package), and
- The size and number of future requests and remaining funds available.

Te Arawhiti assessment team will consist of:

- COVID team regional leads;
- Negotiations regional managers; and
- Other staff as appropriate.

Following consideration, the assessment team will make recommendations to the Minister for Māori Crown Relations: Te Arawhiti for final decisions.



Process for releasing funding

Decisions on funding will be made within two days of receiving a request.

Funding will be released within one week.

100% of the approved fund amount will then be entered into the Ministry of Justice's transactions workflow system for expedited payment directly to iwi bank accounts.

