



**Press release:**  
**Whaikaha –**  
**Ministry of Disabled People**



**1 July 2022**

# About this document



On 1 July 2022 a **press release** was put out by:



- **Honourable Carmel Sepuloni**

Minister for Social Development and Employment

and



- **Honourable Poto Williams**

Minister for Disability Issues.



A **press release** is a document that is written for the media like TV / newspapers to use.



This Easy Read document is a **summary** of their press release about **Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People**.



A **summary**:

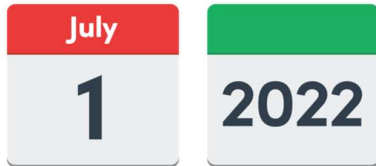
- is shorter
- tells you the main ideas.



You can read the full press release about Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People online here:

**[www.whaikaha.govt.nz/about-us/welcome-from-our-new-minister](http://www.whaikaha.govt.nz/about-us/welcome-from-our-new-minister)**

# What the press release is about



The press release says that 1 July 2022 is the start of a new ministry that will be called:



**Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People.**



**Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People** is a new part of the New Zealand Government that will:

- make disability support services better for disabled people and their whānau / families
- use an **Enabling Good Lives** way of doing things.

## Enabling Good Lives



**Enabling Good Lives** is a way of giving disability support so you have:

- choice and control in your life
- the support you need and want
- a good life.



The Ministry will also have a New Zealand Sign Language name which will be ready in about October 2022.



You can find more Easy Read information about Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People online at:

**<https://tinyurl.com/2wydfpbz>**



These documents are in Easy Read.



The Ministers said the start of the Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People is an important day for the 1.1 million disabled people in Aotearoa New Zealand.



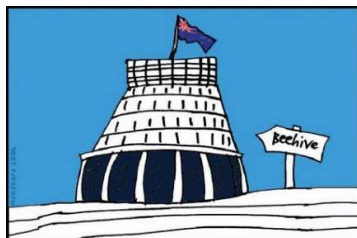
The Ministers also said Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People is an important step to true **working partnerships** between:



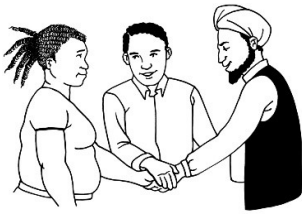
- disabled people
- tāngata whaikaha / disabled Māori



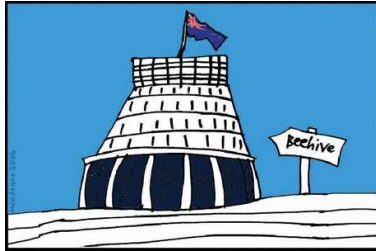
- whānau / family
- carers



- supporters
- government agencies.



**Working partnerships** means to work together.



Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People will also work with other government agencies so that there are better services for disabled people such as in:



- employment / work
- education
- health / wellbeing.



Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People will work in a way that is:

**Nothing About Us, Without Us.**



The Ministers said that disabled people have waited a long time for this new ministry.



There has been a lot of good work already by the:

- Establishment Unit for the new ministry
- Community Steering group that has given advice on the setting up of the new ministry.







The 1 July 2022 is also the start of:

- **Health New Zealand**
- **The Māori Health Authority**



**Health New Zealand** is now the health service for the whole of New Zealand.

This means that everyone will get good care wherever they live.



The **Māori Health Authority** will make sure:

- Māori get better healthcare
- there are services that are a good fit for Māori.



You can find out more about these 2  
new health organisations online here:

**<https://dpmc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2021-05/health-reform-white-paper-summary-easy-may21.pdf>**



This document is in Easy Read.

## Where to find more information



You can find more information about Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People at this **website**:

**[www.whaikaha.govt.nz](http://www.whaikaha.govt.nz)**



You can also:

**Call: 0800 566 601**



**Email: [contact@whaikaha.govt.nz](mailto:contact@whaikaha.govt.nz)**

**Freepost: Whaikaha – Ministry of Disabled People**

**Reply No. 262204**

**PO Box 1556**

**Wellington**





This information has been written by the Office of Hon Poto Williams.



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