

Research Management Committee

Hui Summary Date Range 20/12/22 to 24/05/24

What have we spoken about?

- Throughout the course of the research, the RMC has been concerned to ensure that the data is of the highest quality such as the high level of data integrity in TASER data, the variable data quality, gaps in the data, the UN Data Principles, and how the different processes and practices impacted the available data on ethnicity.
- Each month, the RMC reviewed the progress of the Research Teams with a view to ensuring sound methodology, access to participants, robust ethical standards, and to provide support as it was required.
- The RMC discussed the delay in the Phase One reports and the issues that could have arisen if the completion date was around Election Time, as it was previously agreed that no reports would be published three months prior and one-month post-election to ensure the research was not compromised by political considerations.
- Support was provided by RMC to Mana Pounamu and Ihi Research in selecting their sites for Phase One and Phase Two, ensuring a robust process was followed when shortlisting sites and gathering input from various groups to provide a strong rationale when determining the final sites.
- The RMC took a strong focus on the ethics and integrity of the research to ensure that the process and data gathering aligned with good and ethical research process and followed the advice provided by the Ethics Committee.
- The RMC provided support to Mana Pounamu to help them positively engage with RNZPC as they undertook their research. It was important to this relationship development and provide an explanation as to the purpose of the programme and to provide assurance to RNZPC that this was about the system, not the people.
- The RMC identified that there was a real need for clear processes to be established on how the research findings and insights would be shared and implemented within Police.

What have we done?

- The RMC provided advice on research methodology and community engagement to the Research Teams to support their ethics applications. In turn, to acknowledge and tautoko the mana of the Ethics Committee, the RMC decided that all ethics applications would come to them in the first instance to ensure that applications were reviewed rigorously before being sent on to the Ethics Committee for final approval and endorsement.
- A register of Conflicts of Interest was created for the Research Teams and the Ethics Committee to record any potential issues. This ensured that both could operate safely and with integrity.
- The register for Structural Issues was formed alongside the Register of Impact to provide a list of issues that acted as barriers for the Research Teams, which was updated over the course of the programme to ensure that as issues cropped up, they were identified and recorded.

- A list of data that was likely to be considered for UPD research was created and then endorsed by RMC.
- The RMC engaged with the Crown Law Team on the WAI3060 proposal to ensure that synergies were identified between their work and that of the UPD programme. The UPD research scope summary was provided to the Crown Law Team to determine if the UPD research may answer and address any of the questions within the WAI3060 proposal.
- The RMC reviewed and provided support to the Research Teams as they developed their Phase Two research plans, with feedback being provided to each team to ensure the plans were appropriate and robust.
- Feedback was provided by the RMC on the Independent Panel Phase One Report, and it was agreed that this report needed to be separated into three to address the progress made, the summary of the findings, and to highlight how they got to where they are.
- Due to delays, the RMC agreed to extend Dr Paul Brown's contract to ensure that his work could be completed, with this to be paid for from the Research Contingency Budget.
- The RMC ensured that New Zealand Police were referred to as a Police "service" rather than as a Police "force" within the Donald Beasley Institute reports, which reflects the terminology used within the other research reports and by New Zealand Police themselves.
- The RMC confirmed the research outputs for each Research Team and agreed on the review process, which was to include a review of each report by three Panel members, including one RMC member, before finalisation. This ensured that a consistent approach was applied to the research reports, creating a cohesive and appropriate set of outputs to reflect that they all originated from the UPD programme.

What are we going to do next?

- The RMC will continue to manage and provide support to the Research Teams in the coming phases to ensure the programme is effectively maintained and its integrity is upheld.
- As Police continues to develop their response to the Phase One recommendations and an implementation model, the RMC will remain available to provide assistance to ensure the research findings and insights are effectively addressed.