Te Korowai Whetū Social Cohesion policy guide | Quick reference version

Te Korowai Whetū
Whetū
Social Cohesion

Te Korowai Whetū Social Cohesion strategic framework

The strategic framework provides a roadmap for progress towards the vision for a socially cohesive Aotearoa New Zealand, enabling us to coordinate our efforts around a common goal to maximise impact.

Our **vision** is a society in which all "**people, whānau and communities are thriving together**".

To realise this vision, we need to focus on achieving five key outcomes, which define a socially cohesive Aotearoa New Zealand as a society in which people, whānau and communities:

› Are connected and feel like they **belong**
› Are willing and able to **participate**
› Are included and experience **equity**
› Are **recognised** for who they are and **respect** others
› **Trust** each other and institutions

Te Tiriti o Waitangi is viewed as the blueprint of social cohesion in Aotearoa New Zealand and is foundational to any approach to define and improve social cohesion.

The **focus areas for action** help us prioritise and target activity towards key changes that need to take place to achieve the shared vision.

The **enablers for social cohesion** describe ways to make sure that work to strengthen social cohesion is as effective as it can be.

If you require further assistance, contact social_cohesion@msd.govt.nz

Considering social cohesion in **policy development**

Through developing policies and laws, government plays a key role in strengthening social cohesion.

By understanding the potential impacts of your work as a policy analyst, you can develop laws, policies, and programmes that maximise opportunities to strengthen and minimise any unintended negative impacts on social cohesion.
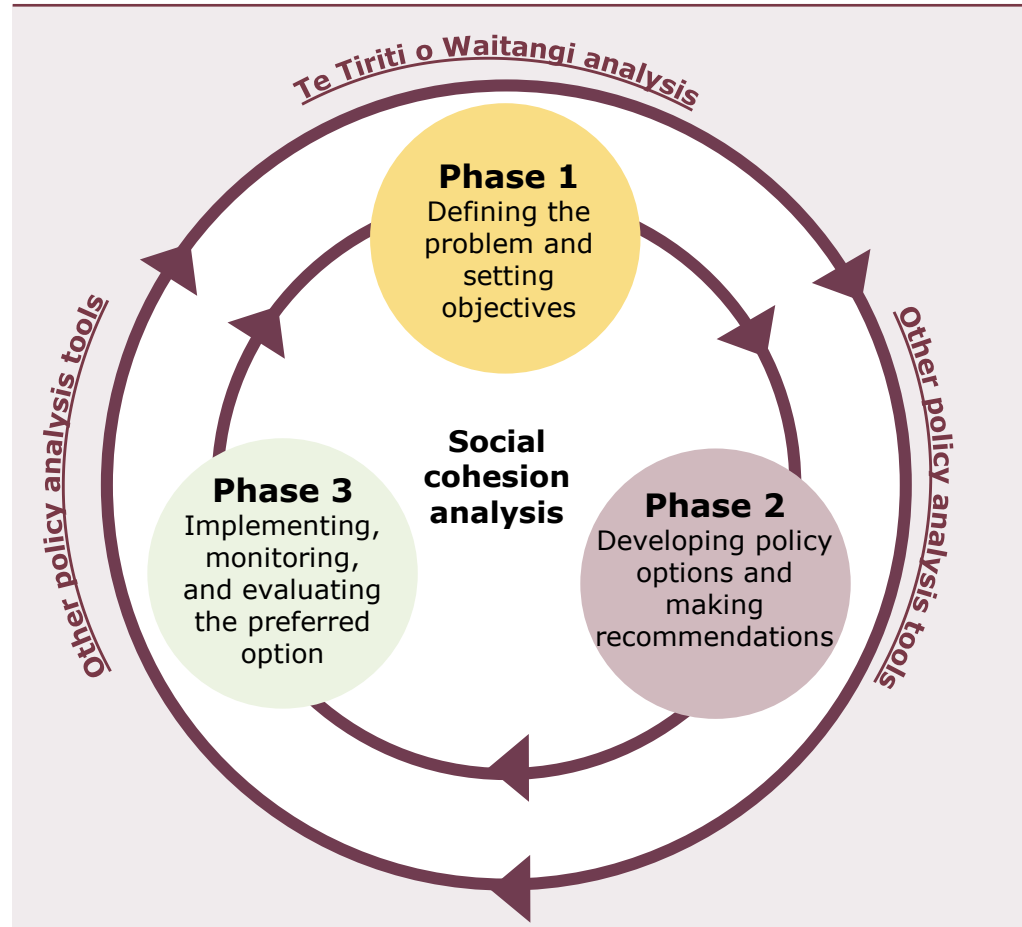
By considering social cohesion in the policy process, you will also work towards fulfilling the Crown's commitments under Te Tiriti o Waitangi and incorporate the Public Service values into your work.

About Te Korowai Whetū social cohesion policy guide

The Policy Guide supports policy analysts to conduct social cohesion analysis when developing or reviewing policy advice. It provides key questions and prompts across the policy development process to help determine the impacts of policy work on social cohesion and maximise the impact of the work on strengthening social cohesion.

This guide does not stand alone and should be used alongside existing tools and resources to help you work through population implications and considerations in more detail.

This document is a quick reference version designed to support you to undertake social cohesion analysis in tight timeframes or to be use once you are familiar with the full version of the guide. If you are new to conducting social cohesion analysis, please refer to the full version .

Te Tiriti o Waitangi analysis

Other policy analysis tools

Other policy analysis tools

Phase 1 Defining the problem and setting objectives

Social cohesion analysis

Phase 3 Implementing, monitoring, and evaluating the preferred option

Phase 2 Developing policy options and making recommendations

Strategic framework diagram

Strategic framework

Translations and alternate formats

Measurement framework

What we've heard

Baseline report summary

Policy guide

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Phase 1
Defining the problem or opportunity and setting objectives

☐ Tick when complete

Identifying potential impacts on social cohesion outcomes

1. How does your work positively and negatively impact each social cohesion outcome?
2. Are there likely to be unintended consequences or risks on any of the social cohesion outcomes?
3. Which of the social cohesion outcomes would you prioritise through your work?

While considering these questions, have think about which population group/s would be impacted by the changes, how various population groups are impacted differently, and the direct and indirect impacts of your policy work on all the social cohesion outcomes outlined in the strategic framework.

☐ Tick when complete

Identifying challenges to social cohesion and guiding future action

1. How does your work positively and negatively impact the focus areas of action in the strategic framework?
2. Are there any existing challenges to social cohesion that your work can address?

While considering these questions, consider if there are any current actions that are exacerbating negative impacts on certain population groups and what systems, structures, and/or processes are enabling these issues.

It may be that the current policy work alone may not be able to contribute to all the social cohesion outcomes. Therefore, we encourage you to take a forward-thinking approach and identify ways in which your work can contribute to social cohesion in the longer-term.

☐ Tick when complete

Enhancing understanding of potential impacts on, and existing challenges to social cohesion

1. What additional research and data could contribute to understanding the impacts on social cohesion?

Inclusive research and data supports decision-making and informs the development of policies, strategies, and products that are aligned with community needs and aspirations. Understanding the types of quantitative and qualitative data (for example, from community engagement) available for use and where the current research and data gaps lie will help you build a more complete picture of your policy context.

Phase 2
Developing and analysing policy options and making recommendations

☐ Tick when complete

Developing policy options to maximise impact on social cohesion

1. How can you consider communities (for example, using inclusive data from all impacted groups) as you develop policy options?
2. Are there any other novel or innovative solutions that have been successful elsewhere that you could explore?

Engaging with communities and including them in the options development process will help inform policies and services that meet the needs and aspirations of the impacted communities. Consider how you can support community driven development of policy options within your work. Refer to the existing community engagement tools and resources to design your engagement approach.

☐ Tick when complete

Assessing how the policy options impact social cohesion

1. How does the policy option impact social cohesion positively and negatively?
2. What social cohesion trade-offs would you need to make if you progressed with this policy option?

While considering this question, think about the direct and indirect impacts on and risks the policy options could have on social cohesion outcomes and key challenges to social cohesion identified in Phase 1.

☐ Tick when complete

Recommending preferred policy option

1. Are there any significant risks that the recommended policy option poses to social cohesion? If yes, how do you intend to mitigate these risks?

When making policy recommendations, you may need to balance between options that do more to promote social cohesion and those that meet other policy objectives. In this scenario, consider how you can communicate any trade-offs and mitigations in your advice.

Phase 3
Implementing, monitoring, and evaluating the preferred policy option

☐ Tick when complete

Outlining ways to maximise benefits and mitigate risks to social cohesion during implementation

1. How does the implementation approach impact social cohesion? Have you identified any risks to social cohesion that the implementation could pose? If yes, how do you intend to mitigate these risks?

Consider if different communication or implementation approaches may be required for different groups, if the final products are clear and transparent, and how you can support all impacted communities to engage with the new products or access the new service.

☐ Tick when complete

Assessing the social cohesion impacts of the policy change

1. How do you intend to assess the impact of the policy on social cohesion?
2. How can relevant qualitative and quantitative evidence be gathered to assess whether the policy is having the intended effects?

Consider how you can capture the experiences of all the impacted groups in accessing the policy to understand if the policy needs to be modified. Te Korowai Whetū Social Cohesion Measurement Framework could help as a starting point to think about potential indicators or areas to incorporate into monitoring and evaluation in your context.