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## **Initial MBIE response to:**

### **“Research, Science and Innovation Data Conceptual Model: Report on the Māori Engagement Round” by Tiaho Ltd**

MBIE welcomes the report from Tiaho Limited and appreciates the time and energy that those who participated have contributed. We acknowledge the clear recommendations for bringing Māori engagement closer to the centre of developing the National Research Information System (NRIS). We accept the need to deepen and strengthen Māori engagement in this area of our work.

The wider themes raised in the report relate to:

- Data governance, knowledge governance and data sovereignty;
- Māori participation in discussions about research, science and innovation;
- The value to Māori of easy access to information;

We note that these important issues are much broader than the curation of data within the NRIS, but nonetheless welcome the opportunity this report provides to consider them within the context of this programme of work. We also acknowledge that there are many calls on Māori to engage, and understand the importance of ensuring people’s time is respected and valued.

We understand that the primary request from this round of engagement was for more durable and consistent Māori participation in the stewardship of the NRIS. MBIE will work to strengthen Māori participation in the stewardship of NRIS, and to build durable relationships with members of the Māori research community who wish to engage with discussions around NRIS.

We are looking at what new structures may be needed and at how we can strengthen existing structures through opportunities for more explicit Māori involvement. We will address this as we develop NRIS data stewardship structures over the next few months.

We are heartened to hear the potential for the NRIS to support and assist the Māori research community and Māori aspirations. MBIE supports greater transparency and thereby accountability around research claims to be working with and for iwi.



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In the short-term, MBIE will:

- publish the Tiaho Ltd report and this initial response on our website;
- act on specific feedback around aspects of the Conceptual Model such as the composition of outputs and the language in which printed or spoken outputs are first delivered;
- incorporate feedback around demographic information and avoiding artificial limits on iwi affiliation into the Conceptual Model design.

This initial response is a beginning not an end. We look forward to working with Māori to realise the potential benefits for the Māori research community, and Māori aspirations generally, that are identified in the Tiaho Ltd report.

For further information, please email [nris@mbie.govt.nz](mailto:nris@mbie.govt.nz)