

# Crown Response Office Pānui Newsletter

29 July 2025

## About this newsletter

This pānui/newsletter is from the Crown Response Office, a central government agency established to coordinate, monitor and report on the government’s response to the Royal Commission. The office is hosted by the Public Service Commission.

Please feel free to share this pānui newsletter. People can sign up to receive these updates: [contact@abuseinquiryresponse.govt.nz](mailto:contact@abuseinquiryresponse.govt.nz?subject=Panui%20Newsletter) with 'pānui newsletter' in the email subject line.

Alternate formats of the pānui newsletter can be found on the Crown Response Office website:[**https://tinyurl.com/24mbbs9c**](https://tinyurl.com/24mbbs9c)

## In this newsletter

In this newsletter you will find updates on:

* Funding to hold events or activities to mark the National Day of Reflection, 12 November 2025.
* How to request official information about the Crown response.
* The latest proactive release of a Government decision about additional funding for the Lake Alice redress torture scheme.

## Funding for National Day of Reflection events on 12 November 2025

A $1 million contestable fund is available to survivor focused groups and organisations to hold local or regional events to mark a National Day of Reflection for survivors of abuse and neglect in care on 12 November 2025:

**Visit:** [**https://tinyurl.com/yufz4urm**](https://tinyurl.com/yufz4urm)

As announced by the Prime Minister last year during the national public apology, a National Day of Reflection is a way to acknowledge and remember survivors who suffered abuse, harm and neglect while in care, and to raise awareness of abuse and neglect in care.

### Funding available

For local events, the Government will contribute a maximum of $10,000, plus up to $1,500 for reasonable accommodations for accessibility.

For regional events, the Government will contribute a maximum of $25,000 plus up to $5,000 for reasonable accommodations for accessibility.

### Type of events

The fund is designed to allow a wide range of events and activities that are meaningful to communities. Types of events and activities that could be funded include:

* community gatherings or other activities to honour survivors;
* story-telling;
* art installations;
* music or cultural performances.

### Eligibility

The fund is open to applications from any organisation with a legal entity status that is either a survivor-specific organisation or can demonstrate that survivors are involved in the design and/or delivery of the event.

Organisations named in the Royal Commission of Inquiry’s final report 'Whanaketia – Through pain and trauma, from darkness to light Whakairihia ki te tihi o Maungārongo'are excluded from applying to the fund because they had historically failed to protect children and vulnerable adults from abuse in care. These institutions can self-fund events they choose to hold.

The organisations can be found in Chapter 12 of the Royal Commission’s Whanaketia report: [Chapter 12: Key findings | Abuse in Care - Royal Commission of Inquiry](https://www.abuseincare.org.nz/reports/whanaketia/part-7/chapter-12) and  
short url <https://tinyurl.com/mr3zhfsk>

### How to apply

The fund is administered by Community Operations Hāpai Hapori in partnership with the Crown Response Office (CRO).

All applications must be made through the online Grants Management System (GCMS): <https://tinyurl.com/4bytazst>

### If you need help submitting your grant application

* email [dayofreflection@dia.govt.nz](mailto:dayofreflection@dia.govt.nz), or
* call Internal Affairs on 0800 824 824 (Monday to Friday, 10am to 4pm).

### Funding timeline

* Applications close midnight 31 August 2025.
* Successful applicants will be informed by the end of September.

## How to request Official Information about the Crown response

Before requesting official information from us, please check our proactively [released information](https://www.abuseinquiryresponse.govt.nz/information-releases) (short url <https://tinyurl.com/bdzxhztj> or past [newsletters](https://www.abuseinquiryresponse.govt.nz/news/newsletter) (short url <https://tinyurl.com/5d6erpy5>) to see if the information you want is already available.

### How to make a request

Make your request as clear and specific as you can. If you are posting your request please ensure you have included name, your postal address or preferred email address, and details of the information you want.

Email: [OIA@abuseinquiryresponse.govt.nz](mailto:OIA@abuseinquiryresponse.govt.nz)

**Post:**

Crown Response Office  
Public Service Commission  
PO Box 329  
Wellington 6140

## Latest proactive release of decisions on the Crown response

Decisions about additional funding for the torture redress scheme have been proactively released: [Decisions from 9 June 2025 about additional funding for redress for torture at the Lake Alice Unit[PDF, 2.2 MB]](https://www.abuseinquiryresponse.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Cabinet-papers/2025-07-11-Additional-funding-for-redress-for-survivors-of-torture-at-the-Lake-Alice-Child-and-Adolescent-Unit.pdf)

Short url to type in: <https://tinyurl.com/yx78amnw>

**End of information: Crown Response Office Pānui Newsletter**

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