# **Transcript: The journey to date**

[Graphic: Te Huringa ō Te Ao, The journey to date, August 2025. Ministry of Social Development logo]

**Maraea Teepa:**

Let's take a moment to reconnect with the kaupapa, what Te Huringa ō Te Ao is and how it came about.

So we're going to have a little, we're going to start with, you know, what we know, what was the status quo?

“It is not worth losing any more lives just to be heard. The most important help we need right now is for tāne.”

“We need all tāne to take action to make change happen. Take on the role of preventing misogynistic and outdated patriarchal views of men to protect wāhine, women and children. We need service services that cut right to the core of the problem.”

And this is an insight from a victim-survivor. And we're really lucky that we have beautiful people that gifted us this kōrero.

We really want to celebrate the people that are capturing this kōrero and it's people like Debbie from the Backbone Collective. So this is a quote from them and this is what's guided us. For us to really serve wāhine and tamariki, we need to serve tāne too and find that service.

So I'm going to hand over to Elisha, one of your hoa haere. Remember, hoa haere is your friend on our journey. So that's our team. We're your hoa haere coming on the journey with you.

Kia ora Elisha. Kei a koe.

**Elisha Powell:**

Kia ora Maraea, thank you for that introduction.

Tēnā koutou. Ko Rotorua te whenua tupu. Kei Manawatū ahau e noho ana. Ko Elisha Powell tōku ingoa.

Kia ora. I’m Elisha. As Maraea said, I'm one of the team members here at MSD and will be a hoa haere on our Te Huringa ō Te Ao journey.

So I'm just going to take a moment to talk about the background of Te Huringa ō Te Ao so that we can ground ourselves in the kaupapa and we'll just do a brief overview of the work that's happened to date and some of the evidence base that's informed our approach.

And within this kaupapa, we have been on a journey of learning and we're still learning. And so some of this is just the whakapapa of that learning and we'll keep learning with you all as we journey through our mahi and design.

So how did we get here?

In 2018, MSD undertook a really big piece of engagement across the family violence sector and we were trying to learn what was working and wasn't wasn't working and we talked to lots of providers across the sector and many of you were involved in that work. So we really want to thank you for your contribution. It's really helped shape where we are today.

And through this engagement, we learned that there are significant gaps for men using violence. Especially support that's long term and flexible and for providers to be able to do this work, they needed longer term contracts.

So in 2020 there was an increase in investment for family violence services and we moved from 7 million to 17 million dollars for men services for men using violence which would be funded in 2023 and 2024.

And in 2022 we started to take a bit of a deep dive and learn what was really needed for services for men. And so what we did was did a lot of learning about our existing family violence services. We looked at some contracts like Whānau Resilience. We learnt what was working there and what we could improve on.

We completed a literature review of best practice for working with men using violence and we commissioned research to understand the needs of men through talking to them about their experiences.

And what we learnt is that there's no set timeline for healing and that it's often hard for men to find help and to know what to expect. And asking for help can come with risk, especially for Māori.

So this was sort of setting the foundations of what we needed to do.

I'll just share a quote here from one of the tāne involved in the research.

“Not one-size-fits-all. All men are different and some talk, some don't.”

And you guys will be really familiar with all of these things, but it's just important to ground us in the voices of men that informed our approach in Te Huringa ō Te Ao.

So all of the work we did gave us a really strong evidence base for the kaupapa and we knew we were heading in a new direction and to encapsulate this new direction the name Te Huringa ō Te Ao was gifted to us by our E Tū Whānau team here at MSD, specifically Mātua Keelan Ransfield. So we really want to acknowledge and mihi to Mātua Keelan for his generous koha to the kaupapa. It really encapsulates what we're trying to do with this kaupapa.

So just a brief of its meaning, Te Huringa ō Te Ao in its simplest form means the turning world or changing world. But when we take a deeper look into the nature of change and transformation it requires, this name becomes more profound.

It represents the opportunity for growth, evolution and transformation, and it really speaks to those pivotal moments in the lives of tāne and men, which spark a desire to change and become better versions of themselves.

And for us, Te Huringa ō Te Ao also reflects the opportunity to work differently. It invites us to reimagine the potential for change and explore what change could look like.

So we'll just move back to the evidence base.

And that work we did has informed our Te Huringa ō Te Ao framework, which is the foundation for this kaupapa and we tested the framework on our roadshow and through engagement with the sector.

And through testing this, we had some awesome insights and feedback which told us to add more strengths-based language, connection to identity, wairuatanga, whakapapa and kaimahi specialism.

So we did that and my colleague Rangimei will share in a few slides the final Te Huringa ō Te Ao framework and what it means in our work.

So in 2024, this service was with 41 providers in the community as part of our tranche one funding. And so we've had a really awesome year working with providers and learning so much about design and we've loved seeing the mahi that providers have done.

And so some things we've learnt are here on the screen, but I just want to thank our tranche one providers as well for building awesome relationships with us. And this has been key for the work we've been doing over the last year.

So we thank you and through all of the learning we've done together, we've refined our approach and we'll continue to refine and test and learn as we work with the 39 providers joining us in tranche two.

So yeah, we've got 39 providers coming on board as part of tranche two.

I'll just move to the key shifts that we're trying to achieve through Te Huringa ō Te Ao and that was guided as well by this quote from the Family Violence Death Review Committee.

“We need a fundamental change in the family violence system, addressing the complexity of people's lives beyond one off single-issue interventions.”

Our key shifts are going to pop up here on the screen magically for me and I won't read them all, but just a couple.

We're moving from time limited programs to safe, long-term support.

And we're moving from an individual focus to a whānau-centred approach.

And we're moving from punitive, mandated and stressful support to restorative, motivational and healing.

So we hope to through this work that we will move towards those key shifts.

So a little snapshot of the providers in tranche one. There are 41 providers designing and delivering in communities. And today an additional 39 providers are coming on board and that's filled 27 geographical gaps, ensuring that everyone in Aotearoa has some access to services for men.

[Graphic: Ministry of Social Development Logo, TeHuringaOTeAo@msd.govt.nz]