



Inequalities Policy

(Poverty | Justice)

Poverty and the rising cost of living

The Māori Party will:

- ✓ **Set** a target to eliminate poverty in Aotearoa by 2025.
- ✓ **Make** a cost of living adjustment to all benefits.
- ✓ **Introduce** a living wage for all workers.
- ✓ **Increase** the focus on the role of the Ministerial Committee on Poverty to address the drivers of poverty for tamariki and their whānau.
- ✓ **Implement** a new agreed all of Government Equity Accord that will address government department accountabilities and performance. These will be evaluated through a cross party agreed performance framework that includes specific targets related to department legislated activities, including specific monitoring spend on Māori/Pacific health and social outcomes with benchmarking and publicly published performance data.

- ✓ **Establish** a Māori/Pasifika Health Commissioning Unit to identify health needs, evidence based interventions and approaches, and then prioritise funding to any organisation that can deliver the best contribution to outcomes. This unit will measure, monitor and report on the funding and the outcomes
- ✓ **Establish** a new role of a senior independent equity advisor for outcomes under the Equity Accord, who is responsible to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and Minister of Māori Development that will be established to directly advise on progress on the Equity Accord and provide oversight on the Māori/Pasifika Health Commissioning Unit.

Justice

The Māori Party will:

- ✓ **Dismantle** institutional racism within the justice system as a matter of urgent priority.
- ✓ **Place a moratorium** on the building of new prisons and expand the provision of Whare Oranga Ake and Māori Focus Units in existing prisons.
- ✓ **Reduce** the rate of Māori over-imprisonment by 30% by 2027.
- ✓ **Reduce** the prison muster by 25% by 2025.
- ✓ **Provide** racial bias training for all those who work in the criminal justice system.
- ✓ **Establish** an independent group to oversee Māori strategy in accordance with Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

- ✓ **Implement**, prioritise and expand restorative justice processes through a kaupapa Māori lens.
- ✓ **Support** other culturally relevant approaches to prison and crime rates that address violence in all its forms, reoffending and recidivism and create a community-led fund for initiatives that focus on prevention of social harm.
- ✓ **Review** protocols around police use of pepper spray, guns and tasers.

Access to Justice

- ✓ **Review** funding of Community Law Centres to enable community legal services to be sustainable and to improve access to legal information, expertise and knowledge.
- ✓ **Introduce** whānau facilitators to ensure whānau are informed and able to discuss all their choices and the consequences (legal and non-legal) in the family court system.
- ✓ **Require** whānau facilitators to work closely with iwi and hapū within the Whānau Ora Commissioning Agencies.
- ✓ **Empower** communities to reduce social harm and criminalisation by introducing a suite of housing and hauora policies and initiatives that support community led, whānau-centred approaches.
- ✓ **Adapt** and **expand** specialist courts to align with evidence – mental health, homelessness, AODT.
- ✓ **Increase** funding and resources to support marae-based youth court and restorative justice programmes, including, iwi panels in line with evaluation recommendations.

- ✓ **Advance** community led restorative justice approaches to crime.
- ✓ **Re-direct** investment to community justice approaches to criminal justice.
- ✓ **Support** sustainable funding of Community Law Centres to improve access to legal information, expertise and knowledge and extend these services to a further six regions.
- ✓ **Expand** iwi panels, Kooti Rangatahi, Kooti Whāna, Matariki Courts across Aotearoa and increase the numbers of specialist courts including the AOD Courts, following an evaluation of the current trials underway in the Drug and Alcohol Treatment courts in Auckland.
- ✓ **Establish Kooti Māori** that encourages kaupapa based approaches to dealing with whenua and whānau.
- ✓ **Develop** a community-centred approach to criminal justice and introduce a strategy to reinvest putea in community and criminal justice initiatives and approaches.
- ✓ **Introduce** therapeutic-based treatment and courts that invest in long-term reintegration and rehabilitation post-release.
- ✓ **Provide** more funding and resources to support marae based youth court and restorative justice programmes.
- ✓ **Support** whānau facilitators to work closely with iwi and hapū within the Whānau Ora Commissioning Agencies.

Legislative changes

The Māori Party will:

- ✓ **Repeal** legislation that disproportionately impacts Māori to reduce the targeted criminalisation of Māori and introduce restorative measures that ensure mana ōrite is upheld.
- ✓ **Establish** an Anti-Corruption Commission to absorb the investigative functions of state sector agencies.
- ✓ **Disestablish** the Independent Police Conduct Authority and transfer its functions to the Anti-Corruption Commission.
- ✓ **Repeal** the Bail Amendment Act 2013 to reduce the level of Māori imprisonment.
- ✓ **Repeal** the Sentencing and Parole Reform Act 2010 – three strikes legislation.
- ✓ **Repeal** the *Electoral (Disqualification of Sentenced Prisoners) Amendment Act* to ensure every person in Aotearoa is able to exercise their democratic right to vote.
- ✓ **Repeal** the Three Strikes Legislation, Sentencing and Parole, and Victims Rights Acts.
- ✓ **Remove** criminal penalties for the possession and personal use of certain illicit drugs.
- ✓ **Review** sentencing laws to restrict prison to an option of last resort.

Whare Oranga Ake

- ✓ **Extend** Whare Oranga Ake to every prison service to support long term reintegration and rehabilitation post-release.
- ✓ **Create** a community-led fund for initiatives that focus on preventing social harm.
- ✓ **Initiate** a Computers in Cells policy to support inmates to achieve literacy and numeracy goals.
- ✓ **Initiate** a review of the entire justice system and align it to tikanga Māori with a focus on removing institutional racism.
- ✓ **Develop a Māori Pathway for Women Prisoners** that are culturally responsive to assist in addressing the disproportionate number of Māori women in prison.
- ✓ **Reinvest** in te reo and tikanga programmes in all prisons and programmes to support prisoners reintegrating back into the community.
- ✓ **Support** iwi-led, kaupapa focused initiatives in prisons to reduce recidivism amongst offenders.
- ✓ **Invest** in more adequate social and community housing for offenders with links to access to appropriate community mental health services and support.
- ✓ **Provide** community-led alternatives to secure youth residences.
- ✓ **Expand** the Passports to Life initiative to all paroled offenders and prisoners on probation to support them to get a driver's licence, identification, bank account and curriculum vitae.

Family Violence

- ✓ **Increase** funding for abuse survivors to immediately access specialist services, treatment and support.
- ✓ **Provide** lifelong, free access to therapeutic based support for victims and their families.
- ✓ **Establish** 120 new navigator positions under this kaupapa to extend *Tu Pono: Te Mana Kaha o Te Whānau* - the Whānau Ora Facilitator approach that enables whānau to eliminate violence from within their lives.
- ✓ **Educate** children and young people about what child abuse and domestic violence is and how to protect themselves.
- ✓ **Address** the urgent need for a greater investment by government in whānau restoration programmes that address sexual violence and 'whole of whānau' initiatives to ensure the active participation and engagement of all whānau members.
- ✓ **Increase** facilities and resources for families to help those at risk free themselves from sexual violence.
- ✓ **Invest** in frontline services such as Women's Refuges throughout Aotearoa to enable them to address the huge numbers of police callouts, to restore safety and wellbeing while still maintaining zero tolerance for violence.
- ✓ **Enable** sustainable funding for specialist services to continue to provide information, first response and long-term support and treatment for those affected by sexual violence.

- ✓ **Advocate** for a much greater commitment from ACC into responding to the deep impacts of sexual and domestic violence.
- ✓ **Introduce** a direct resourcing pathway that expands E Tū Whānau and the Pasifika Proud campaigns.
- ✓ **Extend** the reach and access of facilitators in the Family Court to support whānau navigating their way through the Family Court system.
- ✓ **Continue** to support the *Achieving Intergenerational Change* strategy introduced by former Maori Party co-Leader Hon Dame Tariana Turia.

Te Tiriti o Waitangi

The Māori Party will:

- ✓ **Set up** a Royal Commission of Inquiry in to institutionalised racism.
- ✓ **Set up** a Royal Commission of Inquiry in to the abuse of children while in State care.
- ✓ **Support** Kohanga Reo to achieve equity of funding