



## The Aotearoa Midwifery Project

***The Council is pleased to see the progress of the [Aotearoa Midwifery Project](#) and acknowledges the work of the Co-chairs, the Collaborative Reference Group and the Project Team.***

Reviewing and refining the midwifery scope of practice, competencies and pre-registration standards is timely, as is the continual development of the Te Tiriti partnership framework.

The Council welcomes the consultation and engagement phase that is about to occur and encourages midwives and consumers of health care services to participate in this process.

***Christina Mallon, Chair and Dr Sue Calvert, Chief Executive and Registrar***  
*Midwifery Council*

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## A word from the Co-chairs

***E ngā mana, e ngā reo, e ngā karangataha maha o te motu, tēnei te mihi aroha ki a koutou i tēnei wā o te urutā. Ko te tūmanako kia tau te mauri ki waenga i a koutou i ngā hapori katoa. He karere anō tēnei tuhinga kia mōhio ai koutou i ngā whakahaere i tēnei wā.***

We have been delighted to welcome three additional Māori members to the Collaborative Reference Group after a second expressions of interest. Our new members, Jean Te Huia, CEO of Nga Maia Māori Midwives joins as a professional body representative, Jeanine Tamati-Elliffe as a consumer representative and Beatrice Leatham is a voice for Clinical Midwives.

Continuing to develop the Te Tiriti partnership framework to ensure equal decision making for Māori as a Te Tiriti partner is a focus of the Collaborative Reference Group. We look forward to developing our Te Tiriti framework to ensure the views and interests of consumers working alongside midwives are heard.

The cultural diversity of the midwifery (or any) workforce is also seen as key to delivering quality care that can support health equity. We believe a genuine regulatory Te Tiriti-led partnership is vital as we move forward.

Members of the Collaborative Reference Group have also been building their understanding about the midwifery regulatory framework taking into account the many recent legislative changes.

We look forward to engaging with our many stakeholders – midwives, professional and affiliated organisations, wāhine and whānau. Please look out for more information about this over the coming weeks.

***Dr Judith McAra Couper and Dr Hope Tupara,***  
*Co-chairs, Aotearoa Midwifery Collaborative Reference Group*

## A word from the project team

***It is great to see the Collaborative Reference Group working together to consider some of the big issues associated with the Aotearoa Midwifery Project.***

We are delighted to have an additional member on the project team – Karen Daniells, who takes on the role of Senior Midwifery Advisor in the Council.

Karen is a midwife of 25 years experience who has worked as an LMC in a continuity group practice for women with complex needs, a clinical charge midwife in a tertiary facility and a midwife manager. She has experience with research in the areas of midwives' sexual health practice and severe acute maternal morbidity case review. She is currently also involved in the operationalisation of the Aotearoa New Zealand arm of an international study investigating the development of the human immune response to influenza and Sars-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19). Karen is extremely excited to be participating in the collaborative, Te Tiriti led review of the midwifery regulatory framework.

The project team is now working on implementing our engagement strategy, which was somewhat delayed when COVID-19 rightly absorbed the energy of both the midwifery sector and the wider public.

As part of our engagement plan, we are seeking opportunities to meet with different groups who are directly or indirectly involved in midwifery – midwives, Māori, Pasifika and consumer groups. If you have a meeting, hui or fono you would like us to attend please [let us know](#) as we are keen to engage with the sector to progress the work of the project.

I encourage you to contact me if you have any queries or would like to discuss opportunities to engage with the Project.

[Karina Kwai](#), Project Manager



**Midwifery Council**  
Te Tatau o te Whare Kahu

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