

Wai Ora Tāmaki Makaurau,  
Auckland's Water Safety and Drowning Prevention Strategy

Progress Report  
May 2023

The Reference Group continues to address priority foci and are identifying new initiatives as they evolve.

**Priority Foci.**

Reference Group Priorities.

Discussions were initiated to consider the current Water Safety code and whether messages were fit for purpose for 2023 and beyond. A working group meet to consider aspects of our regional difference, such as population diversity, environmental change and a euro-centric lens. It was agreed the group would benefit from including more diversity of voice and an alignment with national organisation's intentions.

Integrated Aquatic Pathway Refresh.

Organisations contributing to the IAP continue to reflect on their current programmes and services to ensure they link to educational curriculum and the 15 competencies. Initial duplications and gaps of programmes and services were identified, and organisations reconsidered sector capacity and relevance for further discussion.

MBIE Aviation Initiative.

A MBIE grant application was lodged with the support of NZSAR staff and iwi engagement from Rihari Wilson. A 'Letter of Interest' between DPA and NZSAR will formalise the arrangement, and a response is expected from MBIE mid-June. This aims to address the risk posed by visitors and new migrants arriving in the country with little awareness or competencies. Through a QR code, passengers are directed to 'NZSAR's 'AdventureSmart' online platform for water safety information and links.

**Future direction**

Advocacy:

Voiced during the Safer Boating Forum was the need for WOTM to advocate for the Part 91 and support further by seeking grass-roots voices.

#### MNZ Funding Application

Three applications are being submitted 2 June to seek MNZ funding support for WOTM initiatives. These include: piloting a business engagement strategy; refreshing the boating elements on the IAP; and developing sequential competencies to underpin safer boating.

#### WOTM Presentation – Waves Conference.

The WOTM strategy will be presented at the Waves conference in Hamilton 6-8 September 2023 to showcase the work to date and the journey projected.

#### Future Dates:

23 May – WOTM Workshops – IAP & Messages.

20 June – WOTM Steering Group Meeting.

27 July – WOTM Reference Group Meeting.

6 September – WOTM presentation @ Waves Conference.