

MINUTES

CORE GROUP MEETING

18 FEBRUARY 2009

Present: Dale Williams (Chair), Wayne Guppy, Peter Tennent, Malcolm McPherson, John Forbes, Penny Webster, Alistair Sowman, Maureen Reynolds, Frana Cardno, Les Probert, Colin Drew, Jan Francis.

Apologies: Malcolm Campbell, Brendan Duffy, Bob Harvey, Jono Naylor, Kevin Winters, Tim Shadbolt, Tracy Hicks, Lawrence Yule (ex-officio).

The main focus of this Core Group Meeting was a facilitated Strategic Planning Session. From that session it was decided the next steps should be:

- Arrange meeting with the Prime Minister to gain support for new MoU.
- That the Ministers to develop a relationship with should include Ministers of: Education, Tertiary Education, Social Development and Employment, Maori Affairs, Labour, Economic Development, Local Government and perhaps Finance. The Taskforce would be guided by the PM and Minister of Social Development in this regard.
- Reiterate that the relationship with Ministers is politician to politician and should only include the Ministers officials not departmental officials.
- Meetings with officials of those departments and ministries and should be at the senior official level with only one from each department.
- Key message is that local solutions to local problems by local people is the most effective way to work – we are building resilience – Mayors are there to help.
- MTFJ can be the eyes and ears of the community with regard to young people and education, training and work.
- Change of government is a great opportunity to re-visit fundamental reason for being.
- We need to ensure credibility with good solid attendances at Core Group Meetings and to take advantage of the availability of Mayors who are the most effective advocates – e.g. Sector Chairs and National Council members.