

2026-2028 Strategic Plan

Vision

Optimum health and wellbeing for all New Zealanders.

Mission

Ensuring allied health professions are recognised and contribute to their full potential to enable New Zealanders to enjoy health and wellbeing

Context

The Executive Committee have reviewed the existing Strategic Plan and agree that there is still much work to be done to complete it. Accordingly, this new plan takes account of relevant outstanding commitments and proposes revised priorities for the forthcoming three years.

It also takes into account feedback from the member survey. In particular members want AHANZ to:

- Strengthen its public profile
- Demonstrate greater influence with government and policy makers and
- Create clearer ways for members to contribute between meetings;

In line with the Hidden in Plain Sight recommendations, Members agree that the focus of advocacy priorities should remain on

- Workforce recognition and development
- Integrated person-centred care
- Equity in access to service and
- Investment in digital health and data infrastructure.

The Executive Committee consider that all of the work that it does must support AHANZ's commitment to te Tiriti o Waitangi. AHANZ acknowledges the four principles of Te Tiriti and applies this lens to all of its mahi. These four principles are

- Kawanatanga - Governance
- Tino Rangatiratanga - Self Determination and Protection of Taonga
- Oritetanga - Equity and participation

- Wairuatanga - Spiritual beliefs including the expression of connection, holistic well-being, cultural expression and personal experience

The Strategic Priorities, identified below, are aspirational, however they must take account of the very limited financial and human resources available to the Association. An annual plan and budget will be developed in line with the final priorities adopted by the members.

Strategic Priorities

1. Commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi

1.1 Honouring our commitment to Te Tiriti

How we will achieve this:

- Develop a Te Tiriti o Waitangi Statement.
- Apply an equity lens to all AHANZ mahi.
- Report each year on AHANZ progress against its Te Tiriti commitments.

1.2 Supporting members with cultural competence and safety

How we will achieve this:

- Include cultural competency resources on the AHANZ hub
- Share brief case studies or examples of good practice from member organisations
- Promote at least one learning
- To be included as a standing order in all member meeting agenda.

1.3 Positive relationship with Nga Pou Mana

How we will achieve this:

- Establish regular engagement between AHANZ and Nga Pou Mana.

2. Proactive political advocacy

2.1 Positioning allied health within the health system

How we will achieve this:

- Work with the Ministry of Health to ensure Allied Health representation in national health policy
- Advocate for the implementation of the recommendations from "Hidden in Plain Sight"
- Contribute to the New Zealand Health Strategy

- Support members to engage at local level

2.2 Building effective stakeholder relationships

How we will achieve this:

- Maintain relationships with current strategic partners
- Develop relationships with new strategic partners where practical
- Maintain regular communication with the Minister of Health, and other relevant politicians and government agencies.

3. Engaged membership

3.1 Regular meetings and communication

How we will achieve this:

- Organise regular meetings
- Provide regular and relevant news and information to members
- Engage members to support and participate in AHANZ initiatives and projects.

3.2 Membership growth

How we will achieve this:

- Document value adds to becoming a member
- Identify and engage with Allied Health professions which are not currently members of AHANZ.

3.3 Sharing of expertise and resources across professions

How we will achieve this:

- Create a central hub of resources produced by AHANZ and member organisations
- Develop Position Statements on key issues to ensure member organisations are informed and engaged.