

17 July 2026

From: Shu Run Yap
Sent: Friday, 17 July 2026 12:01 pm
To: ICT WebStandards <web.standards@gdda.govt.nz>
Subject: Some additional feedback from the draft DAS

Kia ora Jason and Katherine,

Hope your consultation is going well. I've asked one of my colleagues who has an eagle eye for writing and reviewing to take a look at the DAS, and here is her feedback:

I think this is a great example of a well-written, plain language standard – very clear even to a layperson.

I have two tiny comments.

First, I was slightly confused by the 'services that the New Zealand Government uses' in 1.1. I'm sure there's a good reason for this, but it invites the question, if these services aren't public facing, does it matter so much if they don't conform to the standard?

Second, in the glossary, it says:

Communication **that is:**

- appropriate for its intended audience
- clear, concise, and well-organised
- **allows** people to easily find, understand, and use the information they need.

The third dot point doesn't flow grammatically from the stem.

Congrats to everyone involved. This is a cracker bit of work!

Hope this helps!

Shu Run Yap (pronunciation: shoo roon, [pronouns she/her](#))

Principal Advisor, Operations and Delivery
Strategy & Enablement

Whaikaha | Ministry of Disabled People

s9(2)(a) | [Whaikaha.govt.nz](https://www.whaikaha.govt.nz)



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 **Whaikaha**
Ministry of Disabled People



Whaikaha logo in purple with QR code for NZSL name

16 July 2026

From: Shu Run Yap

Sent: Thursday, 16 July 2026 11:14 am

To: 'Katherine Barcham' s9(2)(a)

Cc: Victoria Wray s9(2)(a); Jason Kiss s9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: Telling people about the consultation

Kia ora Katherine,

I can confirm that Whaikaha comms won't be posting about the DAS on our social media.

The main reason for this is because we are not leading this consultation, and we don't want people to get confused and start directing feedback to us (this has happened in the past). It would be best for the GDDA to post about this on your own social media.

We have included the DAS consultation on this page here though, which is frequented by the community: [External consultations | Whaikaha - Ministry of Disabled People](#)

I hope you're getting good responses!

Ngā mihi,
Shu Run

From: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a)

Sent: Thursday, 16 July 2026 10:52 am

To: Shu Run Yap s9(2)(a)

Cc: Victoria Wray s9(2)(a); Jason Kiss <s9(2)(a)>

Subject: Telling people about the consultation

Kia ora ShuRun,

Do you know if anyone that runs the official Whaikaha comms is going to post something about the DAS consultation on your social media, particularly LinkedIn?

Katherine Barcham (she/her)

Web Standards Consultant - Kaitohutohu Paerewa Tukutuku

Government Digital Delivery Agency Te Pūnaha Matihiko



[Digital Accessibility Community of Practice](#)

[Web Accessibility Guidance](#)

Note: I do not work on Wednesday afternoons

8 July 2026

Karyn Brice [11:16 AM]

Kia ora @ShuRun Yap, can you please give us some advice on the Easy Read document for the Consultation.

The Easy Read provider has created a document for the survey questions but is concerned that it is 86 pages long and a complex topic. They suggested reducing the number of questions from the survey.

We have looked at removing some of the questions, particularly the more complex ones but we have concerns about this approach because:

- This is now providing only a subset of the overall consultation questions
- It doesn't now consider a wider audience that uses Easy Read
- The question numbers won't match the questions in the online survey which means it will be confusing for people using the Easy Read to support them to fill in the survey

What we think might be a better approach is to keep the longer document with all the questions, but add a note to the more complex sections saying it's ok to skip over to the next section.

It would be great to get your thoughts on this. I can share the document if you are interested in having a quick look.

Thanks for your help (as always!)

cc @Katherine Barcham

ShuRun Yap [1:43 PM]

Hi Karyn,

Whaikaha funds People First to provide advice to government agencies on creating information that is suitable for production in alternate formats and meets the needs of disabled people who use those formats. People First also provides Easy Read translation services.

An 86-page document is unlikely to meet the needs of many people with learning disabilities and may create a barrier to their participation in the consultation.

As People First has suggested, including a statement in the Easy Read advising that there is an online survey available with 18 questions will help people make an informed choice about which version of the survey best meets their needs. This approach supports participation while recognising that different people will want different levels of detail and engagement.

People with learning disabilities are the primary audience for the Easy Read format.

Following People First's advice is likely to improve participation in the consultation by people with learning disabilities and help ensure their views are heard.

People with learning disabilities are among the groups that can face the greatest barriers to accessing information and participating in government engagement. For that reason, it is particularly important that the consultation approach is designed around their information and engagement needs, rather than expecting them to engage with content that may not be accessible to them.

Karyn Brice [2:17 PM]

thanks @ShuRun Yap for your guidance - that helps us with our next steps

ShuRun Yap [3:19 PM]

Thanks Karyn. Can you please keep us in the loop on your next steps? An email to the Accessibility inbox would be helpful!

Karyn Brice [3:23 PM]

Thanks @ShuRun Yap yes we can do that - did you want an update on next steps for just the Easy Read process?

ShuRun Yap [3:25 PM]

Just the Easy Read process please!

Karyn Brice [4:01 PM]

@ShuRun Yap I've sent a summary email - let me know if you'd like any more info 🙌

ShuRun Yap [4:28 PM]

Thank you!

8 July 2026

From: Shu Run Yap

Sent: Wednesday, 8 July 2026 9:07 am

To: 'Jason Kiss' <s9(2)(a)>

Cc: Katherine Barcham <s9(2)(a)>; Jasmine Lindsay

<s9(2)(a)>

Subject: RE: Definition of High-stakes information or services

Kia ora Jason,

Thank you!

I will include a small section for those formats with regards to how the DAS applies in the alternate formats standard and guidance.

It's not an issue to include the mandatory publishing of Easy Read and plain language summaries in HTML (since that is unchanged from the current Web Accessibility Standards). However I do think that this responsibility to provide the content in HTML will sit with the agencies and not the providers? Since the agencies own the webpages that the content should be published to, they should be the ones ensuring that the text and images are provided in HTML.

We can discuss this the next time we see each other on Teams? 😊

Ngā mihi,
Shu Run

From: Jason Kiss <s9(2)(a)>

Sent: Tuesday, 7 July 2026 4:23 pm

To: Shu Run Yap <s9(2)(a)>

Cc: Katherine Barcham <s9(2)(a)>; Jasmine Lindsay

<s9(2)(a)>

Subject: Re: Definition of High-stakes information or services

Ah, I'm with you now :)

My initial thought is that this is guidance specific to, and should live with, the alternate formats standard and guidance. But we can certainly include a little section to this effect in our implementation guidance. Good idea.

Fyi, if we do the latter, we're also likely to note that publishing Easy Read and plain language summaries in non-HTML formats fails requirements, and recommend that agencies demand Easy Read, plain language summaries, etc in accessible HTML from their provider.

Jason

From: Shu Run Yap <s9(2)(a)>
Date: Friday, 26 June 2026 at 9:06 AM
To: Jason Kiss s9(2)(a)
Cc: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a); Jasmine Lindsay
s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Definition of High-stakes information or services

IN-CONFIDENCE

Kia ora Jason,

Thank you.

By “exceptions” I mean when certain formats don't have to comply with the “standard” expectation. One example is NZSL video – because it's an alternate format it doesn't require captions. Another is alt text for Easy Read images – because the images are supporting and decorative accompaniments to the text, alt text is not required.

For me these sit within “how to apply the DAS to alternate formats”, I wonder if that sits in the implementation guidance for DAS?

Happy to jump on a call to talk through if easier 😊

Ngā mihi,
Shu Run

From: Jason Kiss s9(2)(a)
Sent: Thursday, 25 June 2026 4:58 pm
To: Shu Run Yap s9(2)(a)

Cc: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a); Jasmine Lindsay
s9(2)(a)

Subject: Re: Definition of High-stakes information or services

Hi Shu Run,

The approach for high-stakes information sounds good.

I'm not sure what you mean by 'the exceptions' though. Do you mean the exceptions that an agency might claim on the basis of technical infeasibility or disproportionate burden?

Cheers,

Jason

From: Shu Run Yap s9(2)(a)
Date: Tuesday, 23 June 2026 at 1:49 PM
To: Jason Kiss s9(2)(a)
Cc: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a) Jasmine Lindsay
s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Definition of High-stakes information or services

IN-CONFIDENCE

Kia ora Jason,

Thank you.

For **high-stakes information**,

- What we will do for the first draft of Alt Format Standards is reference high-stakes information as it currently stands in the Web Accessibility Standard.
- When the DAS is published, Whaikaha should be all good to include the definition in a revised version of Alt Formats Standards. We will likely rework this definition with the community to reflect their understanding of high-stakes.
- Other than Alternate Formats, do you know if any other agencies currently reference this in any of their policies?

For the **exceptions**,

- When the DAS is published, I wonder if we should include the exceptions in the guidance that goes alongside the DAS (GDDA-led), **or** somewhere within the Alt Format Standards and any guidance alongside it (Whaikaha-led)?

- I think it's really important for agencies to have support in interpreting and meeting the DAS, but also knowing how to handle alternate formats in context of the DAS. The information should live somewhere and be clear that it's written and endorsed by both Whaikaha and the GDDA.
- What do you think? Really happy to discuss this.

Ngā mihi,
Shu Run

From: Jason Kiss s9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 17 June 2026 9:17 am
To: Shu Run Yap s9(2)(a)
Cc: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a); Jasmine Lindsay
s9(2)(a)
Subject: Definition of High-stakes information or services

Kia ora Shu Run,

I remember what I wanted to mention on Monday, and that is that the DAS, having removed all specific exceptions and alt-format requirements, no longer includes the definition of high-stakes information or services. I recall you mentioning that you might wish to reuse this definition in some manner, which you are welcome to do, of course 😊

https://www.digital.govt.nz/standards-and-guidance/nz-government-web-standards/web-accessibility-standard-1-2#_High-stakes_information_or

Cheers,

Jason

Jason Kiss

Kaitohutohu Paerewa Tukutuku | Web Standards Consultant
Government Chief Digital Officer (GCDO)
Īmēra: s9(2)(a)



**Government Digital
Delivery Agency**
Te Pūnaha Matihiko



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Please note that I don't work Fridays.

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7 July 2026

Karyn Brice [2:29 PM]

@ShuRun Yap we are almost ready to launch the Consultation survey this Monday 13th July.

We will be sending out the following email, and wanted to share this with you as a “heads-up”. Please let us know if you think any of the information needs adjusting, or if there is any content missing. Thanks for your help...

Subject: Digital Accessibility Standard public consultation is open

Kia ora,

We are inviting your feedback on Aotearoa New Zealand’s new Digital Accessibility Standard [link to DAS page].

From 13 July to 7 August, you can have your say on the new standard, which will replace the current Web Accessibility Standard. This aims to make all government digital information and services easier for everyone to use.

We have published information about the standard and the consultation in a range of accessible formats.

If you know someone who is interested in more accessible public services, please share this email and the consultation with them.

Your feedback will help shape the final version of the standard. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey by 7 August. [link to consultation page]

ShuRun Yap [2:57 PM]

Thanks Karyn will pass this onto the team!

ShuRun Yap [3:02 PM]

My quick feedback - perhaps add days (Monday 13 July to Friday 7 August), and perhaps add a time e.g. "complete the survey by Friday 7 August 5pm" so that it's super clear when

the cut off is on the actual day.

You can also offer alternative options outside of the survey e.g. "If you cannot access the survey but would like to share your thoughts, you can contact us on [xyz]" (edited)

1 reply

Karyn Brice [3:51 PM]

thanks @ShuRun Yap thats really helpful

23 June 2026

From: Shu Run Yap
Sent: Tuesday, 23 June 2026 1:27 pm
To: 'ICT WebStandards' <web.standards@gdda.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Pasifika Groups for DAS Consultation

Kia ora Jason,

Thanks for this, our team have confirmed all good re: Pasifika Groups. Looks like you have a good balance of groups covered here so nothing else to add from our end 😊

Ngā mihi,
Shu Run

From: ICT WebStandards <web.standards@gdda.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 16 June 2026 9:00 am
To: Shu Run Yap s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: Pasifika Groups for DAS Consultation

Kia ora Shu Run,

No Pasifika groups attended the workshops in May, but we will be including the following when we email everyone about the consultation:

- Faiva Ora Leadership Group
- Vaka Tautua

Please suggest any other Pasifika representatives we should include. Then again, while we're at it, here's our current list of non-government disability contacts to whom we are sending the consultation invite:

- Access Matter
- Aotearoa Disability Law
- Balance Aotearoa
- Blind Citizens NZ
- Blind Low Vision NZ
- CCS Disability Action
- Deaf Aotearoa
- Disabled Persons Assembly NZ

- DPO Coalition
- Faiva Ora Leadership Group
- Firstport
- IHC NZ
- iLead
- Kāpō Māori Aotearoa NZ
- Muscular Dystrophy NZ
- National Disabled Students' Association

Are there any groups missing that won't get informed through any of the channels above?

Look at me turning your request to us into work for you 😊 All this can wait until next week!

Jason

From: Shu Run Yap <s9(2)(a)>
Date: Monday, 15 June 2026 at 4:12 PM
To: ICT WebStandards <web.standards@gdda.govt.nz>
Subject: Pasifika Groups for DAS Consultation

IN-CONFIDENCE

Kia ora Jason (and Katherine, but you're on leave!)

Just had an internal enquiry on whether any Pasifika groups came through for your consultation workshops so far – were there any? It would be good to know who if yes.

Ngā mihi,

Shu Run Yap (pronunciation: shoo roon, [pronouns she/her](#))

Principal Advisor, Operations and Delivery

Strategy & Enablement

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10 June 2026

Karyn Brice [11:59 AM]

Kia ora @ShuRun Yap

We have a question about how we best communicate the upcoming consultation with the DPOs to ensure we are reaching the appropriate areas of the disability community, but without risking 'spamming' people.

We are planning on sending 2 emails (from the Web Standards or GDDA). The 1st is information about the consultation and that it is open for feedback. The 2nd is a reminder before the consultation consultation closes. Included in the emails will be information on where to find the alternate formats.

On the email mailing list are the previous workshop attendees and the DPOs. We will also be creating a LinkedIn post with similar content.

My question is, should we also be supplying the "blurb" about the consultation to Whaikaha to be shared with DPOs? This was recommended by Briony during our discussions with the alternate formats group. We are happy to do this but don't want to risk people feeling 'spamed'.

What are your thoughts? Anything we have missed?

whaikaha.govt.nz

Sharing your alternate formats with the community | Whaikaha - Ministry of Disabled People

4 replies

Jason Kiss [12:33 PM]

My thinking is that we can send one email in both cases to all stakeholders, and that this email can include that blurb and directions to the alt formats right up front. This way the comms all come from the GCDO but prioritise accessibility and disabled stakeholders.

ShuRun Yap [2:20 PM]

Kia ora Karyn, through the Alternate Formats process, we will cascade the information to only Blind Citizens NZ, Deaf Aotearoa, and People First NZ, and they will send this out to their communities. I don't think it's likely to create "spam" - the DPOs themselves will likely

filter out the double-up, whether they received the information from you, through the DPO Coalition, or via Alternate Formats.

Agree with Jason's approach, we will support this since these are the GCDO's relationships with the disability communities.

When you are ready we will update our page <https://www.whaikaha.govt.nz/about-us/get-involved/external-consultations> with a copy of your consultation, and it will get a mention in the newsletter that goes out as well.

whaikaha.govt.nz

External consultations | Whaikaha - Ministry of Disabled People

Karyn Brice [3:05 PM]

thanks @ShuRun Yap - are there any other methods of communication we should consider? Or does this cover all we need?

ShuRun Yap [3:26 PM]

You're using Accessible Surveys yes? I think given that you have carried out workshops, that plus emails, Linkedin, alternate formats, and accessible surveys is good enough coverage. If there are any specific community needs that are not being met, the DPOs will let you know usually!

27 May 2026

From: accessibility (WHAIKAHA) <accessibility@whaikaha.govt.nz>

Sent: Wednesday, 27 May 2026 3:40 pm

To: Karyn Brice s9(2)(a)

Cc: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a); Jason Kiss

s9(2)(a); Krista Pritchard s9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: AF2605010 : Attending the next Alternate Formats Working Group meeting

Kia ora Karyn,

We've received the remaining additional advice on the documents, which I'm popping through in this email, apologies there are a few other urgent pieces I'm balancing at the moment as well so just trying to keep on top of each of them.

Advice on DAS context and summary for consultation document:

- Attached is the first document with some tracked changes – Make It Easy looked at the content and advised that some of the information is a bit repetitive; which would also mean the alternate format translations would be repetitive, and especially in the case of the Easy Read; it would make the translation longer.
 - The tracked changes are just a suggestion to consider to take some of the repetitive information out and re-order for clarity
- If you can provide plain language explanations of the following terms (we recommend including these explanations in the document, so it can benefit all alternate format translations):
 - New Zealand Government Web Standards
 - Web Accessibility Standard
 - Web Usability Standard
- We recommend that a link is included in this document that goes to the consultation survey / where people can go to access the survey
- For URLs in the document, we recommend that they are provided as URLs rather than text only hyperlinks (e.g. instead of “[Digital Service Design Standard](#)” it would be “.. the updated Digital Service Design Standard (go here for more information: www.digital.govt.nz/standards-and-guidance/digital-service-design-standard/proposed-principles)”)
 - For any URLs longer than 25 characters, we recommend that a shortened URL is also provided (it is ideal if the shortened URL can be branded; e.g. “www.digital.govt.nz/DSDS”)

Advice on Consultation – plain language overview and survey questions:

- The additional feedback on this document is around the question numbering. The survey document states there are 18 questions, and there are 9 numbered sections, which then have 'sub questions' (the questions themselves) which are numbered 2.2, 7.2, etc. Make It Easy advised that in the Easy Read they would want to use easier question numbers, as the sub-numbering could be confusing. It has been recommended that the simplified question numbering be updated in the base document so that it can be matched across all alternate formats.
 - o You could potentially remove the section numbers and keep them as just headings (e.g. "About you" instead of "9. About you"), and then the questions themselves be numbered from 1-18

Both documents:

- Both documents should have the organisation's logo (above the title but not in the header), and that logo should have alternate text which contains all text in the logo image, and a description of the imagery in the logo image

I have spotted your email from this afternoon as well – I can't confirm the removal of the dates entirely as being suitable for translation (as the DPOs might recommend inclusion of dates so people who can't easily access the website/navigate it can still know how long they have to complete the survey).

I can book you into the meeting tomorrow morning, just noting that the meeting next Tuesday is only a 30 minute meeting due to the Accessible Information Training that Whaikaha runs (with DPO representatives and either Katherine or Jason presenting).

Would you be available to come at 9:30am tomorrow morning?

Ngā mihi,

Briony Tustanowski – Ia/She/Her
Senior Advisor, Disability Information and Formats
Operations and Delivery
Whaikaha | Ministry of Disabled People
Waea Pūkoro: s9(2)(a)

[Learn about our free Accessible information training](#)



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From: Karyn Brice <s9(2)(a)>
Sent: Tuesday, 26 May 2026 9:36 am
To: accessibility (WHAIKAHA) <accessibility@whaikaha.govt.nz>
Cc: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a); Jason Kiss
s9(2)(a); Krista Pritchard s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: AF2605010 : Attending the next Alternate Formats Working Group meeting

Kia ora Briony,

Thanks for clarifying the appropriate email channel for this work and for the update on progress.

I think the best approach is for me to attend one of the Thursday meetings to discuss any updates sent to you by midday today. Katherine is not available Thursday morning, so she won't be able to attend that meeting.

Then next week, both Katherine and I can attend the Tuesday meeting to discuss any remaining questions and clarify expected timeframes. This meeting would be beneficial because it is more likely that all members will be attending.

In the meantime, we can keep communicating progress through this accessibility@whaikaha.govt.nz email address.

Thanks for all your help with this,

Ngā mihi

Karyn

On Mon, 25 May 2026 at 14:43, accessibility (WHAIKAHA) <accessibility@whaikaha.govt.nz> wrote:

IN-CONFIDENCE

Kia ora Karyn,

Thank you for your email – apologies for not getting back to the other emails from Katherine – as I am primarily working from the accessibility inbox I sometimes miss emails that get sent to my personal inbox so its generally best to email accessibility@whaikaha.govt.nz.

While we do have the meeting tomorrow, several representatives who would normally attend, are unavailable for the meetings this week. If you still want to come, I can send through the invite and timeslots, just noting that you won't be able to hear from everyone.

I don't have all written advice from DPOs yet, so am confirming if there is any additional advice they need to send through that wasn't covered at last week's meeting, generally advice comes 5 working days from the point at which DPOs receive the documents for review, so I'm hoping any final advice will come through by COB today.

Generally, once content is in production, it can be difficult to make changes during the process (sometimes it will add additional cost and time delay), so generally we recommend that the final document includes all final content with no further changes. I understand that this situation is a little bit tricky as there's some amount of chicken and egg, but unfortunately, I don't have further information on dates for quotes or final delivery yet, as providers usually are able to give more detailed timeframes (than our standard working timeframes) once they've received final documents yet.

If there is no further advice from the DPOs I will send these versions you've sent through out to the providers to get quotes and estimated delivery timeframes, but if there is more advice that comes back by tomorrow midday at the latest, I will send that through and hold on sending documents until they've been updated to reflect any final advice.

Ngā mihi,

Briony Tustanowski – Ia/She/Her
Senior Advisor, Disability Information and Formats
Operations and Delivery
Whaikaha | Ministry of Disabled People
Waea Pūkoro: s9(2)(a)

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From: Karyn Brice s9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 25 May 2026 1:58 pm
To: Briony Tustanowski <s9(2)(a)>
Cc: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a); Jason Kiss
s9(2)(a); Krista Pritchard s9(2)(a)
Subject: AF2605010 : Attending the next Alternate Formats Working Group meeting



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Kia ora Briony,

I wanted to follow up with you to see if Katherine and I can attend the Alternate Formats Working Group meeting tomorrow.

We are hoping to discuss the remaining changes needed for the 2 documents (Reference: AF2605010). In the last meeting the group said they would read through the 2 documents in detail and email us any necessary changes. Since we haven't received any updates, we want to check if there are other changes to be made.

I have attached the 2 documents with updates based on what was discussed in the last meeting.

Please let me know:

- If it is possible to attend the meeting tomorrow
- What additional changes may be required?
- Expected timeframes for receiving remaining feedback, quotes, and the delivery of the final alternate formats.
- If the group members creating the documents will edit the consultation open and close dates once we know them?

I know that the group is busy, but receiving feedback soon would be helpful. The alternate formats are needed for the public consultation initially planned to open on 15 June. Therefore, we need to understand the expected timeframes so we can adjust the dates.

Ngā mihi

--

KARYN BRICE | DESIGNER | ACKAMA

LEVEL 2, 50 THE TERRACE, WGTN | s9(2)(a) | KARYN.BRICE@ACKAMA.COM

WELLINGTON | AUCKLAND | MELBOURNE | WWW.ACKAMA.COM

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25 May 2026

Jason Kiss [1:47 PM]

@Jasmine Lindsay @ShuRun Yap We're sorting koha for the workshop participants. We were thinking Prezzy cards, but wonder what you've done in the past (in case there are a11y or issues with Prezzy or similar)? (edited)

ShuRun Yap [2:10 PM]

Kia ora Jason, I'll check with our outreach and innovation team on what has been done to date. The ones that I know of have been paid roles: TOR and Advisory Groups being paid under the cabinet fees framework, or being covered under the advice contract for Alternate Formats.

ShuRun Yap [2:19 PM]

I have an answer for you, plus a bit of guidance from our Ministry's gifts donations and koha policy (the GDDA might have something similar?)

Yes to Prezzy cards. We use this consistently across our Comms and Outreach work when involving members of the community in video shoots.

- Koha definition and intent: The proposed payments are koha - recognising participants' contribution without obligation or exchange for services.
- Not payment for goods or services: The videos are not commissioned services; the contributions are voluntary and based on their lived experience.
- Culturally appropriate: Koha is an established and appropriate way to acknowledge contribution, including in contexts involving Māori and disability communities.
- No expectation of benefit or conflict: There is no ongoing obligation or inducement attached to the koha.

1 reply

Jason Kiss [2:21 PM]

Ta for the quick turnaround and steer to corporate gift-giving policy!

18 May 2026

From: Karyn Brice s9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 18 May 2026 4:20 pm
To: accessibility (WHAIKAHA) <accessibility@whaikaha.govt.nz>
Cc: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a); Jason Kiss
s9(2)(a); Krista Pritchard s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: Alternate formats for upcoming consultation for DAS

That's great Briony, thanks for all your help with setting this up.
Looking forward to meeting with you tomorrow,

Ngā mihi
Karyn

On Mon, 18 May 2026 at 15:54, accessibility (WHAIKAHA)
<accessibility@whaikaha.govt.nz> wrote:

IN-CONFIDENCE

Kia ora Karyn,

My apologies – I hadn't hit send on the invite! All is confirmed now though, see you tomorrow morning 😊

Ngā mihi,

Briony Tustanowski – Ia/She/Her
Senior Advisor, Disability Information and Formats
Operations and Delivery
Whaikaha | Ministry of Disabled People
Waea Pūkoro: s9(2)(a)

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Scan for
NZSL name

 **Whaikaha**
Ministry of Disabled People



From: Karyn Brice s9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 18 May 2026 2:44 pm
To: accessibility (WHAIKAHA) <accessibility@whaikaha.govt.nz>
Cc: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a) Jason Kiss
s9(2)(a); Krista Pritchard s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: Alternate formats for upcoming consultation for DAS

Kia ora Briony,

I wanted to confirm our meeting for tomorrow. I haven't seen a meeting invite, so I wanted to check if this is still going ahead.

Please let me know if you have any questions,

Ngā mihi

On Mon, 18 May 2026 at 11:01, Karyn Brice <s9(2)(a)> wrote:
Thanks Briony,

Can we meet tomorrow from **9:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.**?
Katherine, Jason, and I will be on the meeting call.
I'm assuming you will send out the Teams meeting link?

Ngā mihi
Karyn

On Mon, 18 May 2026 at 10:34, accessibility (WHAIKAHA)
<accessibility@whaikaha.govt.nz> wrote:

IN-CONFIDENCE

Kia ora Katherine,

All our meetings are online, held via Teams!

Ngā mihi,

Briony Tustanowski – Ia/She/Her
Senior Advisor, Disability Information and Formats
Operations and Delivery
Whaikaha | Ministry of Disabled People
Waea Pūkoro: s9(2)(a)

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Scan for
NZSL name



From: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 18 May 2026 10:30 am
To: accessibility (WHAIKAHA) <accessibility@whaikaha.govt.nz>; Karyn Brice s9(2)(a)
Cc: Jason Kiss s9(2)(a) Krista Pritchard s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Alternate formats for upcoming consultation for DAS



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s9(2)(a)

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Kia ora Briony,
Is the meeting online or in person?

Katherine

From: accessibility (WHAIKAHA) <accessibility@whaikaha.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, 18 May 2026 10:16 am
To: Karyn Brice s9(2)(a)
Cc: Jason Kiss <s9(2)(a)> Krista Pritchard s9(2)(a) Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Alternate formats for upcoming consultation for DAS

IN-CONFIDENCE

Kia ora Karyn,

Apologies for the delay in coming back to your email here – I understand it may now mean tomorrow morning's meeting is no longer suitable for everyone's schedules as well.

We have timeslots available tomorrow morning, but you may prefer to come and meet with us on Thursday morning as well, so I'll pop the timeslots for both days below:

- Tuesday 19 May – 9:05am-9:30am
- Tuesday 19 May – 9:30am-10am
- Thursday 21 May – 9:05am-9:30am
- Thursday 21 May – 9:30am-10am

Let me know which date and timeslot works best, and I can send through the invite for the meeting.

Ngā mihi,

Briony Tustanowski – Ia/She/Her
Senior Advisor, Disability Information and Formats
Operations and Delivery
Whaikaha | Ministry of Disabled People
Waea Pūkoro: s9(2)(a)

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NZSL name

Whaikaha
Ministry of Disabled People

From: Karyn Brice s9(2)(a)
Sent: Thursday, 14 May 2026 9:18 am
To: accessibility (WHAIKAHA) <accessibility@whaikaha.govt.nz>
Cc: Jason Kiss <s9(2)(a)> Krista Pritchard
s9(2)(a) Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: Alternate formats for upcoming consultation for DAS

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from

[REDACTED] s9(2)(a)

[Learn why this is important](#)

Kia ora Nicole,

Thanks for sending through this information. I have been working with Jason Kiss and Katherine Barcham on these plain language documents to prepare them for conversion into alternate formats.

Katherine sent the 2 documents yesterday using the request form and process you outlined.

Could we attend your group meeting on Tuesday to discuss these documents and determine if any parts need editing or updating? Or if the group has any questions for us about the content.

Please let me know the next steps,

Ngā mihi
Karyn

On Fri, 24 Apr 2026 at 16:05, accessibility (WHAIKAHA) <accessibility@whaikaha.govt.nz> wrote:

IN-CONFIDENCE

Kia ora Karyn

Many thanks for getting in touch.

The process for alternate formats is here: [Requesting alternate formats | Whaikaha - Ministry of Disabled People](#)

As part of the alternate formats process, we work with three Disabled Peoples Organisations (DPOs) – Blind Citizens, Deaf Aotearoa and People First – who provide advice on preparing content for translation to alternate formats. We meet with them twice a week and agencies are welcome to come along and discuss their documents / information with the group. Jason came along a few weeks ago to discuss the DAS

consultation. However, at that stage there wasn't a draft ready for sharing so he shared an 'example' draft to help the group get an idea of what it could look like.

If you have a draft ready to share, that would be certainly be useful. You can (following the steps at the link above), fill out the request form and send us the draft. (Although the action of filling out the form potentially sits with @Jason as it will ask for invoicing details, etc) Ideally two draft documents – one of the plain language summary/background info and a second document of the actual survey questions.

Thanks for letting us know about Accessible Surveys also – that is helpful to know. Time for the alternate formats to be uploaded to the survey tool also needs to be factored in.

If you would like to come along to a meeting to discuss, that might also be a good idea. I do think that will be best to do after we have the drafts however, seeing as we already met with Jason pre-draft. 😊

Any other questions please just let me know.

Wishing you a wonderful long weekend!
Nicole

Nicole Straube ([ia/she/her](#))

Advisor, Disability Information and Formats
Strategy and Enablement

Whaikaha | Ministry of Disabled People

s9(2)(a) | www.whaikaha.govt.nz

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[GIF image of the logo and email signature banner of the Ministry]

Me he aka rātā ka tipu tahi, ka puāwai tahi kia tū kaha i ngā hihi ō Tamanuiterā.

Like the rātā vines growing together and flourishing to stand strong in the warmth of the sun.

From: Karyn Brice <s9(2)(a)>
Sent: Friday, 24 April 2026 1:34 pm
To: accessibility (WHAIKAHA) <accessibility@whaikaha.govt.nz>
Cc: Jason Kiss <s9(2)(a)> Krista Pritchard
s9(2)(a)
Subject: Alternate formats for upcoming consultation for DAS



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from

s9(2)(a)

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Kia ora,

Shu Run from Whaikaha recommended I contact you about about the alternate formats content need for an upcoming public consultation.

I'm working with Jason Kiss on the new Digital Accessibility Standard (DAS) and are preparing for a public consultation starting mid June. We are aiming to get the final content to you on the week starting 11th May.

We will be using a survey tool for the consultation, plus the option of email for direct responses. At this stage the survey tool is planned to be Accessible Surveys.

Currently the content for consultation content is in progress, and will be created as plain language. I will be meeting Dr Claire Bretherton on Friday 1st May to discuss the use of Accessible Surveys and the integration of alternate formats.

What else is helpful for your team in preparation for this alternate format work to be created? Is it helpful for you to view the draft plain language content earlier? What other information is helpful for your team. I'm happy to meet if that is the best option.

Please let me know what suits you,

Ngā mihi

--

KARYN BRICE | DESIGNER | ACKAMA

LEVEL 2, 50 THE TERRACE, WGTN | s9(2)(a) | s9(2)(a)
WELLINGTON | AUCKLAND | MELBOURNE | WWW.ACKAMA.COM

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LEVEL 2, 50 THE TERRACE, WGTN | s9(2)(a)

| s9(2)(a)

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11 May 2026

From: Jason Kiss s9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, 11 May 2026 9:52 am
To: Ronelle Baker s9(2)(a); Shu Run Yap
s9(2)(a)
Cc: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a); Jasmine Lindsay
s9(2)(a); Nina Parker
s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: Te reo Māori for 'Accessibility'?

Kia ora kōrua,

Ngā mihi nui for the reconnection, Shu Run, and for the quick response and confirmation, Ronelle 😊

If the Standard ends up suggesting the word 'Accessibility', it will suggest 'Āheinga' as the Māori equivalent.

Much appreciated.

Kia pai tō kōrua rā,

Jason

From: Ronelle Baker <s9(2)(a)>
Date: Friday, 8 May 2026 at 6:01 PM
To: Shu Run Yap s9(2)(a), Jason Kiss
s9(2)(a)
Cc: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a) Jasmine Lindsay
<s9(2)(a)> Nina Parker
s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Te reo Māori for 'Accessibility'?

You don't often get email from

s9(2)(a)

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Kia ora Shu Run, kia ora koutou,

E mihi ana Jason, great to reconnect with you in this role.

Our Pou Ārahi Ken Te Tau has looked at this example and we are reasonably comfortable that the kupu “Āheinga” can be used in the context of an example for “Accessibility”.

This kupu appears in two prominent web pages:

- Te Puni Kōkiri webpage: [Te Aheinga kia Uru Atu](#)
- Te Taura Whiri i te reo Māori webpage: [Te Pūrongo Āheinga ā-Toro - Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori](#)

For this example, we support consistency with TPK and Te Taura Whiri as the best approach.

Ngā mihi mō te wā whakatā,

Ronelle



Scan for
NZSL name



Me he aka rātā ka tipu tahi, ka puāwai tahi kia tū kaha i ngā hihi ō Tamanuiterā.

Like the rātā vines growing together and flourishing to stand strong in the warmth of the sun.

From: Shu Run Yap <s9(2)(a)>

Sent: Thursday, 7 May 2026 9:49 am

To: Jason Kiss <s9(2)(a)>; Ronelle Baker

<s9(2)(a)>

Cc: Katherine Barcham <s9(2)(a)> Jasmine Lindsay

<s9(2)(a)> Nina Parker

<s9(2)(a)>

Subject: RE: Te reo Māori for 'Accessibility'?

IN-CONFIDENCE

Mōrena Jason,

I'm connecting you with our Kaihautū Chief Advisor Māori Ronelle Baker (added to the thread) to support you with this. I believe you already know each other? 😊

Ngā mihi,
Shu Run

From: Jason Kiss s9(2)(a)
Sent: Thursday, 7 May 2026 8:37 am
To: Shu Run Yap s9(2)(a) Jasmine Lindsay
s9(2)(a)
Cc: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a)
Subject: Te reo Māori for 'Accessibility'?

Mōrena kōrua,

In the draft DAS, we have the following requirement:

- 3.6.2 The Contact Information, or a link to it, **must:**
- a. be identifiable by text that clearly indicates its purpose (for example, 'Contact us', 'Whakapā mai', or equivalent).

We also have this requirement:

- 3.5.3 The Accessibility Statement, or a link to it, **must:**
- a. be identifiable by text that clearly indicates its purpose (for example, 'Accessibility', 'MĀORI EQUIVALENT – āheinga?', or equivalent).

Might Whaikaha have already figured out a word in Māori for 'accessibility' as we use it? If not, all good, and it's something we can figure out later, as we will need to engage with relevant groups 😊

Ta,

Jason

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7 May 2026

Jason Kiss [3:29 PM]

@channel latest [Draft DAS v0.03.docx](#). still a wip

[@ShuRun Yap](#) I sent you an invite to check it out to help inform the A11y Charter work and expectations around monitoring and reporting so that the DAS and the Charter can line up and support each other. Lemme know if there are changes that could make it easier for the Charter to piggy back off the DAS. Can we loosen/broaden the requirements in the DAS, or require more detailed info to be reported? (edited)

2 replies

ShuRun Yap [10:13 AM]

Flagging that I have this on my to-do. When do you need me to review this by?

Jason Kiss [5:06 PM]

Sorry for the late response -- don't stress it [@ShuRun Yap](#). Anytime is fine.

22 April 2026

Karyn Brice [10:26 AM]

Mōrena @ShuRun Yap @Jasmine Lindsay here are some updates about the **DAS Consultation content and questions**.

The initial draft of the content for the [DAS Consultation survey questions](#) is ready for the first review. If you have time, would you be able to read through this and give initial feedback on the content? It would be great to have feedback by early next week.

This will eventually become the Plain Language version which will be sent for alternate formats, but please note that this is early draft and there is some finessing of the content needed.

I'll be meeting with Dr Claire on Friday to get her perspective on Accessible Surveys, so will also be referencing this document.

During early conversations with you, it was mentioned that Suzanne could be involved in the content and question process. Is this still possible and/or needed?

2 replies

ShuRun Yap [10:50 AM]

Kia ora Karyn, I had a look through and added my comment - only one. The main feedback for the doc is definitely in the plain language, but you have that identified as something to work through. I think you should reach out to the Alt Formats Working Group about this sooner rather than later by the way, so they are aware of your timeframes and potentially using Accessible Surveys for the consultation.

Suzanne's team is quite busy at the moment, I'll reach out to her and see what she says.

From: Shu Run Yap
Sent: Tuesday, 21 April 2026 9:06 am
To: 'ICT WebStandards' <web.standards@gdda.govt.nz>; Jasmine Lindsay
s9(2)(a)
Cc: Karyn Brice s9(2)(a) Krista Pritchard
s9(2)(a) Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Invitation: Digital Accessibility Standard workshops

Kia ora Jason,

Nice work, great to hear that it's all progressing.

Please forward the invite to me so I am aware of when the workshops are happening, and can make myself available at short notice if there are any questions about Whaikaha.

Ngā mihi,
Shu Run

From: ICT WebStandards <web.standards@gdda.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 21 April 2026 8:46 am
To: Shu Run Yap <s9(2)(a)> Jasmine Lindsay
s9(2)(a)
Cc: Karyn Brice s9(2)(a); Krista Pritchard
s9(2)(a) Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a)
Subject: FW: Invitation: Digital Accessibility Standard workshops

Mōrena kōrua,

We've scheduled the 2 workshops, one this Thursday and one in May.

So far, s9(2)(a) have accepted. s9(2)(a)
will try to attend.

We sent the email below to everyone we invited initially but who did not respond to the scheduling poll.

Both of you, of course, are welcome to attend as observers. Let me know, and I can send the invite 😊

Thanks again for your help.

Ngā mihi,

Jason

From: ICT WebStandards <web.standards@gdda.govt.nz>

Date: Monday, 20 April 2026 at 6:34 PM

To: Dpo.coalition.nz@gmail.com <Dpo.coalition.nz@gmail.com>,

ilead@yesdisability.org.nz <ilead@yesdisability.org.nz>, s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a), president@ndsa.org.nz <president@ndsa.org.nz>

Cc: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a) Krista Pritchard

s9(2)(a) Karyn Brice s9(2)(a)

Subject: Invitation: Digital Accessibility Standard workshops

Kia ora,

Further to our email last week, we have now scheduled 2 workshops on the Digital Accessibility Standard for the following times:

- Workshop #1 — Thursday 23 April, 2-4pm
- Workshop #2 — Monday 11 May, 2-4pm

If you can attend either of these workshops, please let us know and we will send you an invite. We would very much appreciate your participation, if possible.

Here is more information about the workshops.

Workshop #1

In this workshop, we will discuss how existing features in web browsers and other software can provide alternate formats for some people.

We will discuss:

- the different needs that alternate formats address
- the value and challenges of people generating alternate formats from accessible HTML using readily available technology

- what improvements are needed to support people to generate alternate formats with available technology
- the scenarios where technology cannot be used to generate alternate formats.

More details about the workshop will be shared by end of day Wednesday.

Alternate formats requirements in the DAS

We are no longer proposing that the DAS require Easy Read and NZSL as mandatory for high-stakes content, while keeping Audio, Braille, and Large Print available upon request. We are working with Whaikaha to confirm what will be included in the Accessibility Charter and will align the DAS accordingly.

Workshop #2

One of the topics we are exploring is what the Digital Accessibility Standard (DAS) will cover. The current Web Accessibility Standard covers just webpages. We are considering if we extend the DAS to cover:

- Webpages, mobile apps, and non-web documents or,
- All digital information and communications technologies, including software and hardware, in alignment with the European Union and other countries.

Alongside this, we will need to:

- support government agencies to adopt and implement this increased scope
- balance the increased scope with the risk of agencies not being able to meet it and applying for multiple exceptions.

In this workshop, we will look at these two options and discuss:

- their pros and cons
- how they could impact the disability community
- what a transparent and ideal process for agency exceptions to the DAS might look like.

More information

If you have any questions or concerns about the workshops, please get in touch.

Jason Kiss

Tīmā Paerewa Tukutuku | The Web Standards Team

Īmēra: web.standards@gdda.govt.nz

digital.govt.nz | www.govt.nz

20 April 2026

Karyn Brice [10:46 AM]

Mōrena @ShuRun Yap @Jasmine Lindsay I hope you had a nice weekend and not too drenched by the weather!

I wanted to follow up on some previous information you shared about the public consultation you did for the New Zealand Disability Strategy Refresh. You mentioned that you could connect us with the team that ran the process. It would be great if we could go ahead and meet with them, and in particular understand the use of the Accessible Surveys and MS Word. I'm at the point of planning how to integrate the alternate formats into the Consultation to ensure it is fully accessible. Would you be able to introduce us? Thanks in

advance 📧👋

cc @Krista Pritchard @Jason Kiss

3 replies

ShuRun Yap [11:23 AM]

Mōrena Karyn, yes both of us are staying dry so far. Hope your weekend was excellent despite the weather.

I have connected Katherine with Dr. Claire already - would you like a separate introduction? Happy to do this.

Karyn Brice [11:55 AM]

@ShuRun Yap yes please connect me with Dr. Claire so I can discuss some of the detail around the alt format integration. I'll also follow up with Katherine so we are not doubling up info. Thanks

ShuRun Yap [12:17 PM]

Email sent :)

16 April 2026

From: Shu Run Yap

Sent: Thursday, 16 April 2026 8:46 am

To: 'Jason Kiss' s9(2)(a)

Cc: Jasmine Lindsay s9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: Catch up - A case for limiting default alternate formats in digital contexts to NZSL and Easy Read

Kia ora Jason,

Thank you for your time yesterday morning.

As discussed, here is our response to the document (“A case for limiting default alternate formats in digital contexts to NZSL and Easy Read”) you sent through:

- We feel that the draft DAS should align with the Accessibility Charter. The Charter recommends all five formats currently, and if the DAS has different guidance, it will likely create confusion and mixed practice for agencies.
- Limiting the production and provision of audio, Braille, and large print will have a significant impact on people who rely on portable or hard copies that are produced from the downloadable versions.
 - We recognise that there is work to do to strengthen digital inclusion and capability for disabled people and the people who support them.
 - We recommend addressing this **before** limiting default alternate formats in digital contexts, otherwise we risk making information more inaccessible for those already experiencing the digital divide.
- Making blindness formats “on request” instead of default will create risks for equity in timeliness of information
 - People who need audio, Braille, or Large Print might question why they have to ask, and then wait to obtain the same information as everyone else.
 - This is already a challenge with urgent and high-stakes information in the current workflow, where the alternate formats isn’t always published at the same time as the main content (particularly when decisions are made at pace). We risk making this worse for the people who need these formats.
- We were concerned that the GCDO had considered commissioning alternate formats for this document only in Easy Read and NZSL. This approach would create barriers for blind and low vision disabled people, whose ability to access and respond to the proposal would be directly affected. We appreciate you considering this perspective and recognising the importance of consulting in all five alternate formats when proposing potential changes to alternate format policy.

Next steps:

- We would like you to be involved with the Accessibility Charter Refresh Working Group, which will comprise of Whaikaha,-DPO Coalition representatives, and potentially members of the Whaikaha Accessibility Advisory Group. This will ensure alignment and consistency in our approach for both the Charter and the DAS. Jas will be in touch when we've organised this.

We will send through the 2025 Review of the Alternate Formats Service report, which was carried out in context of the transfer of the service from MSD to Whaikaha in late 2024. The review will provide some better understanding of the service, and the rationale around the work we are doing now to strengthen it. Shu Run will send this through this week.

Ngā mihi,
Shu Run

From: Jason Kiss s9(2)(a)
Sent: Thursday, 9 April 2026 1:47 pm
To: Jasmine Lindsay s9(2)(a)
Cc: Shu Run Yap s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: Catch up - A case for limiting default alternate formats in digital contexts to NZSL and Easy Read



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s9(2)(a)
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Kia ora Jas,

Thanks, and yes, let's discuss. That's the purpose of the proposal.

Availability next week:

- Monday 9 – 11:30am, 1-2pm
- Tuesday 11am-12pm, 1-3pm
- Wednesday 10am-12pm, 1-3:30pm
- Thursday 9-10am, 11am-12pm, 1-2pm, 2:30-4pm

Cheers,

Jason

From: Jasmine Lindsay s9(2)(a)
Date: Wednesday, 8 April 2026 at 5:05 PM
To: Jason Kiss s9(2)(a)
Cc: Shu Run Yap s9(2)(a)
Subject: Catch up - A case for limiting default alternate formats in digital contexts to NZSL and Easy Read

IN-CONFIDENCE

Kia ora Jason,

Do you have any time to catch up about this proposal? We have some concerns with the case, and I'd like to see if we can work them through.

If you can let us know when you're available, Shu Run will find us all a time to get together.

Ngā mihi

Jas



This is my sign-name – it's the same as the sign for 'cat' or 'whiskers'.

Jasmine Lindsay ([she/her](#))

Manager – Operations and Delivery

Strategy and Enablement

Whaikaha | Ministry of Disabled People

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15 April 2026

Krista Pritchard [12:02 PM]

We have a session planned tomorrow at 4pm to confirm the crossover & differences between the Accessibility Charter & the DAS

@Jason Kiss @Jasmine Lindsay @ShuRun Yap @Katherine Barcham @Victoria Wray

Please take a moment to think - what do we need to discover, discuss and confirm in this session? & add your response & wonderings as a reply to this post.

Also send through any other important background - I have a copy of the Accessibility Charter Refresh Project Plan which I can draw from.

CC @Karyn Brice

3 replies

Karyn Brice [12:07 PM]

@Krista Pritchard a reminder to record please as I cannot attend this session - thanks

ShuRun Yap [1:40 PM]

This is very timely as we met with the DPO Coalition a few weeks ago about the Accessibility Charter. We agreed with Jason this morning that he would be involved in the upcoming Accessibility Charter Working Group, so there is opportunity to test the thinking from our 4pm with them.

Jason Kiss [4:33 PM]

Wonderings:

1. how will the AC refer to the DAS? ("latest NZ Government digital accessibility standards from the GCDO"?)
2. if the AC requires meeting the DAS, which requirements from the AC can be removed and included just in the DAS to avoid repetition and confusion (e.g. procurement? alternate formats? plain language?)
3. what requirements in the AC cannot be addressed in the DAS e.g. non-digital a11y
4. what are the reporting requirements in the AC and DAS and how can we reduce the admin burden on agencies? Is there a way to combine the reporting? Note that it would be awkward to set requirements in the DAS based on whether or not an org has signed an optional commitment like the AC. It could be that the AC's reporting requirements

(depending on the transparency expected) can leverage the a11y plan required by the DAS? e.g. the AC could require the the DAS a11y plan also include whatever the AC needs for reporting and transparency? Or the GCDO could require (as allowed under the DAS) regular reporting from agencies on their a11y, and in the accompanying methodology (not dependent on the DAS), it could include a requirement for AC signatories to include the necessary AC reporting.

14 April 2026

From: Shu Run Yap
Sent: Tuesday, 14 April 2026 8:23 am
To: 'ICT WebStandards' <web.standards@dia.govt.nz>
Cc: Jasmine Lindsay s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: You are invited to attend the Digital Accessibility Standard workshops

Kia ora Jason,

Geneva Hakaraia-Tino (our Māori Engagement Lead) has confirmed that she will look to connect you and the three roopu up, individually. She will do this this week.

Ngā mihi,
Shu Run

From: Shu Run Yap
Sent: Friday, 10 April 2026 8:13 am
To: Jasmine Lindsay s9(2)(a); ICT WebStandards <web.standards@dia.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: You are invited to attend the Digital Accessibility Standard workshops

Mōrena Jas and Jason,

Yes, I have specific instructions from Ronelle so will check in with her.

Ngā mihi,
Shu Run

From: Jasmine Lindsay s9(2)(a)
Sent: Friday, 10 April 2026 7:41 am
To: ICT WebStandards <web.standards@dia.govt.nz>; Shu Run Yap s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: You are invited to attend the Digital Accessibility Standard workshops

IN-CONFIDENCE

Hi Shu Run – Ronelle might want to reach out to the Māori organisations – can you check with her?

Jason, I have a contact at NDSA - president@ndsa.org.nz. s9(2)(a) and s9(2)(a) are co-presidents and share the same email address.

From: ICT WebStandards <web.standards@dia.govt.nz>

Sent: Thursday, 9 April 2026 4:53 pm

To: Jasmine Lindsay s9(2)(a) Shu Run Yap

s9(2)(a) >

Subject: FW: You are invited to attend the Digital Accessibility Standard workshops

Kia ora,

You mentioned that Whaikaha would liaise with the following groups regarding their participation:

- Kāpō Māori Aotearoa - info@kapomaori.org.nz
- Te Ao Mārama Aotearoa (TAMA) - info@tama.nz
- Te Roopu Waiora enquiries@teroopuwaiora.nz

Can you please forward to them the email below and invite them to these workshops on our behalf?

Also, do you any contacts at the National Disabled Students' Association? I could not find an email for them.

Many thanks!

Jason

From: ICT WebStandards <web.standards@gdda.govt.nz>

Date: Thursday, 9 April 2026 at 4:35 PM

To: Dpo.coalition.nz@gmail.com <Dpo.coalition.nz@gmail.com>, s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a) ilead@yesdisability.org.nz <ilead@yesdisability.org.nz>, s9(2)(a) >

Cc: accessibility (WHAIKAHA) <accessibility@whaikaha.govt.nz>, Jasmine Lindsay

s9(2)(a), Shu Run Yap

s9(2)(a), Katherine Barcham

s9(2)(a) Victoria Wray s9(2)(a), Krista

Pritchard s9(2)(a), Karyn Brice s9(2)(a) >

Subject: You are invited to attend the Digital Accessibility Standard workshops

Kia ora,

As representatives of the disability community, you are invited to attend two 2-hour online workshops in April and May. These workshops are about the new Digital Accessibility Standard (DAS).

About the DAS

The new DAS is currently being drafted. This will replace the existing New Zealand Government Web Accessibility Standard. At a minimum, the DAS will be expanded to set accessibility requirements for web, native mobile applications, and non-web documents like PDF and Word.

These workshops will help inform what needs to change in the drafted DAS.

There are also the public consultation and additional engagements planned to help inform changes to this DAS before it is published in early 2027.

About the workshops

We'd like to hold 2 workshops with you via Microsoft Teams. The purpose of the workshops is to discuss these 2 important subjects:

Workshop 1 in April: Alternate formats

We are exploring how best to support access to alternate formats. This work will also inform DAS requirements for alternate formats. We would like to explore how features already built-in to web browsers and other software can provide alternate formats. This could increase the timeliness and reach of accessible content.

In this workshop we would like to discuss:

- the value and challenges of users generating alternate formats from accessible HTML and readily available technology
- what improvements are needed to enable users to generate alternate formats with available technology
- the scenarios where technology cannot be used to generate alternate formats
- the impact of the proposed requirement in the DAS to require Easy Read and NZSL as mandatory for high-stakes content, while keeping Audio, Braille, and Large Print available upon request.

Workshop 2 in May: Increasing scope from just the web to mobile and non-web documents — or do we include all software and hardware?

The European Union and other countries already mandate accessibility for all government software and hardware. We are considering whether New Zealand should take the same approach, or just increase scope to web, mobile apps, and non-web documents. If we increase the scope of the DAS too wide and too soon, it risks agencies not being able to meet it and disengaging.

In this workshop we would like to discuss:

- the pros and cons of each option
- how these different options could impact the disability community
- what a transparent and ideal process might look like if agencies were to claim an exceptions to meeting any part of the DAS.

Workshop dates and times

The 1st workshop will be held in April, and 2nd workshop in May. For each of the workshops, please let us know which 2-hour time blocks work best for you by using this online meeting poll:

[What DAS workshop times can you attend?](#)

If you have any problems with the online poll or would like to communicate another way, please email us.

We are limiting the total number of people to 15 people for each workshop. This is to allow for the best participation in the online workshop.

We acknowledge and apologise for the extreme short notice for the April workshop. Please fill out the online meeting poll by Thursday 15 April, if not sooner, so we can send out the invite to the April workshop by end of next week.

Koha

To acknowledge the time and expertise you would be adding, we would like to offer each participant a \$90 Prezzy card for each workshop attended.

Questions?

If you have any questions about these workshops, please let us know. We are looking forward to meeting with you on these important questions to help make the new Digital Accessibility Standard a success.

Ngā mihi nui for your participation and understanding,

Jason Kiss

Timā Paerewa Tukutuku | The Web Standards Team

Government Chief Digital Officer (GCDO)

Te Pūnaha Matihiko | Government Digital Delivery Agency

Īmēra: web.standards@gdda.govt.nz

digital.govt.nz | www.govt.nz

13 Apr 2026

Jason Kiss [4:03 PM]

@Jasmine Lindsay @ShuRun Yap We're planning to use Teams for the workshops with disability representatives, but wanted to double check Whaikaha's thoughts on the disability community's preference for Zoom? cc @Karyn Brice

4 replies

Karyn Brice [4:10 PM]

Some additional context to this is that we had feedback from some of the participants during last years research that they found Zoom more accessible.

Karyn Brice [4:17 PM]

This was the quote from Juliana Carvalho from Access Matters last year:

“Could we please hold the meetings via Zoom? We’ve received feedback that Teams is not as accessible for some participants.”

This was in the context of a workshop with Deaf participants, but not sure if the preference for Zoom was wider than that.

[4:21 PM]

Another piece of feedback from a blind participant which suggests Zoom may not be the best tool:

“Can I just request that the session is not recorded until participants have arrived. I have been involved in research with companies before where they have started the recording before I have got into the meeting. This means my screen reading software JAWS, is not able to unmute for some reason. I think it may be a bug in ZOOM, but since ZOOM doesn’t respond to bug notifications, the bug remains to bite us! (seems appropriate for a meeting about digital accessibility)”

ShuRun Yap [1:35 PM]

Sorry for the late response here, been in quite a few meetings. Whaikaha uses a mix of Teams and Zoom, so it's not a hard and fast rule. It might be that you check with the groups for majority preference and go with that.

8 Apr 2026

Krista Pritchard [9:21 AM]

Mōrena @ShuRun Yap @Jasmine Lindsay

We are preparing for stakeholder workshops regarding the highest impact questions of interest about the DAS.

The (very) draft Workshop Goals by Question of Interest are below - these will be more refined for the workshops. As we work through the research from last year & firm up what will be included in the consultation.

As we work through this, could you please confirm if you have any feedback / research on the subjects & / or if you're planning to cover any of this in your upcoming work?

1. Alt Formats

- confirm the value of alt formats
- identify challenges in alt format production
- confirm value & challenges generating alt formats using accessible html & technology
- consider other solutions & their pros & cons

2. Accessible Communication Channels

includes providing feedback to government & requesting support

- understand the current experience of disabled people
- confirm needs of disabled people communicating
- identify what the essential elements of an accessible communication channel are

3. Limiting scope to web, mobile & non-web docs

- shared understanding of accessibility journey of govt incl current accessibility capability, aspiration & steps required to get there
- identify pros & cons of limiting scope to what is achievable
- identify pros & cons of maximising scope to ideal state

4. Exceptions to Compliance

- communicate the purpose of 'exceptions to compliance' & how it might be used in govt understand disability communities expectations of
- what qualifies as a disproportionate burden
- agencies actions when claiming an exception

Thank you!

6 replies

Karyn Brice [10:50 AM]

[@ShuRun Yap](#) [@Jasmine Lindsay](#) also noting that we also be informed by the findings and insights from the 2025 DAS research project.

ShuRun Yap [4:37 PM]

Letting you know that I've got this on my radar to work through with Jasmine :)

Krista Pritchard [5:17 PM]

Thanks for the update [@ShuRun Yap](#)

Here's the updated workshop goals. We've refined this further into the following.....

Workshop 1: Alternate formats

WC 27th April, 2 hours

Prior to finalisation of DAS Consultation Questions

We are exploring how best to support access to alternate formats. This work will also inform DAS requirements for alternate formats. We would like to explore how features already built-in to web browsers and other software can provide alternate formats. This could increase the timeliness and reach of accessible content.

In this workshop we would like to discuss:

- the value and challenges of users generating alternate formats from accessible HTML and readily available technology

- what improvements are needed to enable users to generate alternate formats with available technology
- the scenarios where technology cannot be used to generate alternate formats
- the impact of the proposed requirement in the DAS to require Easy Read and NZSL as mandatory for high-stakes content, while keeping Audio, Braille, and Large Print available upon request.

Workshop 2 in May: Increasing scope from just the web to mobile and non-web documents — or do we include all software and hardware?

7th or WC 11th May, 2 hours

Consultation questions are confirmed, consultation not yet begun

The European Union and other countries already mandate accessibility for all government software and hardware. We are considering whether New Zealand should take the same approach, or just increase scope to web, mobile apps, and non-web documents. If we increase the scope of the DAS too wide and too soon, it risks agencies not being able to meet it and disengaging.

In this workshop we would like to discuss:

- the pros and cons of each option
- how these different options could impact the disability community
- what a transparent and ideal process might look like if agencies were to claim an exceptions to meeting any part of the DAS.

ShuRun Yap [1:36 PM]

Thanks for the update on this. I only just caught up with Jas yesterday and will look to provide a response to the refined Workshop Goals (not the initial draft one). Am working on this now so you know I'm not ignoring you!

ShuRun Yap [9:47 AM]

[@Krista Pritchard](#) here is our response to the refined workshop agenda - **in bold**

- the value and challenges of users generating alternate formats from accessible HTML and readily available technology
- what improvements are needed to enable users to generate alternate formats with available technology
- the scenarios where technology cannot be used to generate alternate formats
- the impact of the proposed requirement in the DAS to require Easy Read and NZSL as

mandatory for high-stakes content, while keeping Audio, Braille, and Large Print available upon request.

We recommend removing this fourth bullet point as it could be perceived as a foregone conclusion around the solution, i.e. a decision has been made to remove Audio, Braille, and Large Print as the default alternate formats.

We need to have a strong position and plan on how to address the impact of this alongside the proposed change (strengthening digital inclusion training and support to enable people to get online). It would be better to focus on bullet point two first.

In this workshop we would like to discuss:

- the pros and cons of each option
- how these different options could impact the disability community
- what a transparent and ideal process might look like if agencies were to claim an exceptions to meeting any part of the DAS.

We would recommend that you make it obvious what the other options are, and examples, which will help with this topic. For example, some people might not understand the difference between web and software, and whether those are two distinct things, or can overlap.

With claiming exceptions, the community will likely have concerns about how the government plans on monitoring and reporting on this. If agencies claim exception, can there be an adoption period for agencies to comply?

Overall we recommend using plain language as much as possible with the consultation questions. We are covering a lot of technical and difficult concepts, so it will be good to make it easy for people to understand what you are asking to consult on.

Krista Pritchard [10:11 AM]

Great - thanks for your feedback, really helpful

30 March 2026

From: Shu Run Yap

Sent: Monday, 30 March 2026 9:49 am

To: 'Jason Kiss' s9(2)(a)

Cc: 'Katherine Barcham' s9(2)(a) 'Krista Pritchard'

s9(2)(a) 'Karyn Brice' s9(2)(a) 'Julie

Watson' s9(2)(a); 'Grant Carpenter' s9(2)(a)

'Victoria Wray' s9(2)(a) Jasmine Lindsay

s9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: Initial engagement re DAS issues, incl Alt Formats

Kia ora tīma,

I had a chat to our Outreach and Engagement team about this this morning.

1. **What are your thoughts on this approach? If you only had enough time/resources for a few workshops to engage with the community on these questions before going to open consultation, how would you organise that time or those workshops? Who would you invite? And to what degree are Whaikaha and the DPO Coalition able to help us organise/arrange these?**

We think your proposed outline below is great.

- a. We would call the April round “high level or technical expertise” discussions, and avoid using the word “initial” to describe the engagement.
- b. Whaikaha can provide you advice on who to engage with, but you will need to reach out directly as the agency engaging with these groups.
- c. The DPO Coalition will likely pick a few of their own members to attend these workshops.
- d. For this round we would suggest that you extend the invite to all of the groups that we provided contact details for, and requesting them to provide representatives. It would be good to supply them with the context and the skills needed, and they can decide who is best placed to attend these. Perhaps pick a few possible dates and times, and ask people to vote for the ones they are able to make, and go with the majority?
- e. As discussed, the DPOs and disability community representatives should be paid for their time on these engagements. We have run something similar recently for NZS 4121:2001 (Design for Access and Mobility – Buildings and Associated Facilities), and I am happy to put you in touch with my colleague

who managed the engagement. (you'll need to get in quick as she is finishing up at Whaikaha next week)

2. We're also wondering if we shouldn't still try to have an initial discussion with the DPO Coalition / Alt formats group separately and ASAP to talk alternate formats before any workshops in April?

- a. Yes, this is a good idea. You already have Thursday 2 Apr in for a meeting with the Alternate Formats Working Group, so that's great.
- b. We think you should try and meet with the DPO Coalition ahead of the workshops if possible. They usually have meetings at the end of every month, and the March one has just been, but perhaps you could get on the agenda for April?
Meeting with the DPO Coalition means that there's opportunity to discuss the DAS and its intent as early as possible, so that they can provide ongoing support for you throughout the engagement.

Hope this is all helpful. Happy to chat further today when we see each other.

Ngā mihi,
Shu Run

From: Shu Run Yap

Sent: Monday, 23 March 2026 10:44 am

To: 'Jason Kiss' s9(2)(a); Jasmine Lindsay

s9(2)(a)

Cc: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a); Krista Pritchard

s9(2)(a); Karyn Brice s9(2)(a); Julie Watson

s9(2)(a) Grant Carpenter s9(2)(a); Victoria

Wray s9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: Initial engagement re DAS issues, incl Alt Formats

Kia ora Jason,

Thank you for sending this through and apologies for the late response. The last few weeks have been packed, and I'm sure it's the same for you.

Flagging that I've picked this up. We're consulting with one of our colleagues in the outreach and engagement team for their advice, so I hope to respond to all of this once we've had that meeting with them later this week.

Thank you for your patience, and likewise – we're stoked to work closely with you and support your work.

Ngā mihi,

Shu Run Yap (pronunciation: shoo roon, [pronouns she/her](#))

Principal Advisor, Operations and Delivery
Strategy & Enablement

Whaikaha | Ministry of Disabled People

s9(2)(a) | [Whaikaha.govt.nz](https://whaikaha.govt.nz)

Check out our new employment resource [OneinSix](#)
Learn about our free [Accessible information training](#)



From: Jason Kiss s9(2)(a)

Sent: Thursday, 19 March 2026 5:22 pm

To: Jasmine Lindsay s9(2)(a) Shu Run Yap

s9(2)(a)

Cc: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a); Krista Pritchard

s9(2)(a); Karyn Brice s9(2)(a) Julie Watson

s9(2)(a); Grant Carpenter s9(2)(a) Victoria

Wray s9(2)(a)

Subject: Initial engagement re DAS issues, incl Alt Formats

Kia ora Jas, Shu Run,

We've settled on a revised engagement approach for the DAS.

The Stakeholder Reference Group is not happening. In its place, we plan:

1. **April:** Engagement (2 x workshops; via Teams?) with Whaikaha and disability community on high priority questionable aspects of the DAS – these are:
 - o Alternate formats (i.e. requiring only NZSL and Easy Read for accessible web pages with high stakes content; all alt formats required upon user request)
 - o Limiting scope to web, mobile, and non-web documents – should all of EN 301 549 be required, including for all software and hardware? This leads to questions about monitoring, enforceability, value of a standard that's not being met...
 - o Accessible communication channels or feedback mechanisms
 - o Exceptions to compliance where it would be a disproportionate burden — Do we set zero exceptions for things we know won't be feasible (eg. live captions, esp. for te reo Māori), or just rely on an exception for disproportionate burden clause
2. **May:** Alt formats for the consultation documents are prepared.
3. **June:** Consultation
4. **August – September:** 2 x workshops with Whaikaha and disability community on remaining high-priority questions with the DAS following results from the consultation

We'd prefer to have more regular, in-depth sessions with the disability community, and all stakeholders, but given the time, effort and resources involved, we're just not able to. That said, there will be the month-long public consultation to which all can respond, and we do want a few sessions after the consultation with the disability community to go over any questions remaining.

So, 2 questions, please:

1. **What are your thoughts on this approach? If you only had enough time/resources for a few workshops to engage with the community on these questions before going to open consultation, how would you organise that time or those workshops? Who would you invite? And to what degree are Whaikaha and the DPO Coalition able to help us organise/arrange these?**
2. **We're also wondering if we shouldn't still try to have an initial discussion with the DPO Coalition / Alt formats group separately and ASAP to talk alternate formats before any workshops in April?**

It feels so far like our relationship has been rather one-sided, with us doing all the asking and taking, and Whaikaha all the giving! I hope that balances out before too long and you're able to make good use of the GCDO 😊 We very much enjoy working with you.

Thanks again for all your ongoing advice and support.

And happy for a Teams chat if that's easier.

Cheers,

Jason

Jason Kiss (he/they/ia)

Kaitohutohu Paerewa Tukutuku | Web Standards Consultant

Government Chief Digital Officer (GCDO)

Digital Services Branch

Te Tari Taiwhenua | Department of Internal Affairs

dia.govt.nz | digital.govt.nz

Please note that I don't work Fridays.



Internal Affairs
Te Tari Taiwhenua

27 March 2026

From: Shu Run Yap

Sent: Friday, 27 March 2026 2:47 pm

To: 'ICT WebStandards' <web.standards@dia.govt.nz>; Jasmine Lindsay

s9(2)(a); Katherine Barcham

s9(2)(a); Victoria Wray s9(2)(a) Krista

Pritchard s9(2)(a); Karyn Brice s9(2)(a);

Struan Rickman s9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: Draft DAS ready for early internal review

Kia ora tīma,

Happy Friday!

Confirming that the Disability Information and Formats team have reviewed the Draft DAS and I have added our comments directly on the draft DAS document.

Looking forward to catching up next Monday.

Ngā mihi,

Shu Run

From: ICT WebStandards <web.standards@dia.govt.nz>

Sent: Monday, 23 March 2026 9:41 am

To: Jasmine Lindsay s9(2)(a); Shu Run Yap

s9(2)(a); Katherine Barcham

s9(2)(a); Victoria Wray s9(2)(a); Krista

Pritchard s9(2)(a); Karyn Brice s9(2)(a);

Struan Rickman s9(2)(a)

Subject: Re: Draft DAS ready for early internal review

Thanks for the feedback, Shu Run, and for running it by the Alt Formats team.

Jas, I shared this draft with Zsenai Logan at NEMA, but good point to consider them especially given the nature of their content and the alt formats they produce.

Cheers,

IN-CONFIDENCE

Jason

From: Jasmine Lindsay s9(2)(a)
Date: Friday, 20 March 2026 at 11:59 AM
To: Shu Run Yap <s9(2)(a)>, ICT WebStandards
<web.standards@dia.govt.nz>, Katherine Barcham <s9(2)(a)>,
Victoria Wray s9(2)(a)>, Krista Pritchard
s9(2)(a)>, Karyn Brice s9(2)(a)>, Struan
Rickman s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Draft DAS ready for early internal review

IN-CONFIDENCE

Kia ora Jason,

I met with NEMA this week to talk alternate formats – and I wondered if you were planning to do any early engagement with them? (Particularly around the high stakes info, given they tend to be high stakes).

From: Shu Run Yap <s9(2)(a)>
Sent: Friday, 20 March 2026 9:10 am
To: ICT WebStandards <web.standards@dia.govt.nz>; Katherine Barcham
s9(2)(a)>; Victoria Wray s9(2)(a)>; Jasmine
Lindsay s9(2)(a)>; Krista Pritchard
s9(2)(a)>; Karyn Brice s9(2)(a)>; Struan
Rickman s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Draft DAS ready for early internal review

IN-CONFIDENCE

Mōrena Jason,

I've added my feedback directly into this Sharepoint draft, but we are also consulting with our Alt Formats team for their feedback and input and will aim to get this back to you by COB Friday 27 Mar 😊

Ngā mihi,
Shu Run

From: ICT WebStandards <web.standards@dia.govt.nz>

Sent: Wednesday, 18 March 2026 8:46 am

To: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a); Victoria Wray
s9(2)(a); Jasmine Lindsay s9(2)(a);
Shu Run Yap s9(2)(a); Krista Pritchard
s9(2)(a); Karyn Brice s9(2)(a); Struan
Rickman s9(2)(a)

Subject: Re: Draft DAS ready for early internal review

Here's the [draft DAS in the Ackama SharePoint](#)

This might be the easiest way to add edits (Track Changes is on) and comments that everyone can see. Apologies for not sharing the doc this way in the first place!

Cheers,

Jason

From: ICT WebStandards <web.standards@dia.govt.nz>

Date: Tuesday, 17 March 2026 at 3:30 PM

To: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a), Victoria Wray
s9(2)(a), Jasmine Lindsay s9(2)(a)
Shu Run Yap s9(2)(a), Krista Pritchard
s9(2)(a), Karyn Brice s9(2)(a), Struan
Rickman s9(2)(a)

Subject: Re: Draft DAS ready for early internal review

I forgot to mention that if you'd prefer to provide your feedback in person or via Teams instead of email, that might be easier for you and it works for me 😊

Jason

From: ICT WebStandards <web.standards@dia.govt.nz>

Date: Tuesday, 17 March 2026 at 3:02 PM

To: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a), Victoria Wray
s9(2)(a), Jasmine Lindsay s9(2)(a)
Shu Run Yap s9(2)(a), Krista Pritchard
s9(2)(a), Karyn Brice s9(2)(a)
Subject: Draft DAS ready for early internal review

Kia ora koutou,

Please find attached a rough first draft of the new DAS. This draft is informed by the research and recommendations on the DAS and DSDS from 2025.

We're sharing this draft with you for a quick, initial review for any glaring gotchas and gaps. We plan to go out slightly wider for a bit more guerrilla testing on the draft before we hold a public consultation mid-year. There will also be some formal workshops before and after the consultation to provide stakeholders multiple opportunities to discuss the draft and provide feedback.

We're hoping for a quick turnaround on this first internal review. If you can, please send through any comments or questions on the draft by CoB Friday 27 March.

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou,

Jason Kiss

Timā Paerewa Tukutuku | The Web Standards Team
Government Chief Digital Office (GCDO)
Te Pūnaha Matihiko | Digital Services Branch
Te Tari Taiwhenua | Department of Internal Affairs
Toll-free: 0508 468 883
Email: web.standards@dia.govt.nz



Internal Affairs
Te Tari Taiwhenua

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12 March 2026

From: Jason Kiss <s9(2)(a)>
Sent: Thursday, 12 March 2026 12:10 pm
To: Shu Run Yap s9(2)(a)
Cc: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a); Karyn Brice
s9(2)(a); Krista Pritchard s9(2)(a); Victoria
Wray s9(2)(a); Jasmine Lindsay
s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: DPO members for DAS Reference Group

That's super. Thanks, again, Shu Run, for all the contacts.

As you know, we're reconsidering the details of our engagement approach, but regardless of the direction we take, all of these contacts will help us ensure broad engagement with the disability community. Very helpful! 😊

Jason

From: Shu Run Yap <s9(2)(a)>
Date: Thursday, 12 March 2026 at 12:03 PM
To: Jason Kiss s9(2)(a)
Cc: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a), Karyn Brice
s9(2)(a), Krista Pritchard s9(2)(a), Victoria
Wray s9(2)(a), Jasmine Lindsay
s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: DPO members for DAS Reference Group

IN-CONFIDENCE

Kia ora Jason,

One final group to add to your list:

- Te Roopu Waiora enquiries@teroopuwaiora.nz

Our Kaihautū Māori team has spoken to them and they are interested in being involved from a community perspective.

Ngā mihi,
Shu Run

From: Shu Run Yap

Sent: Tuesday, 10 March 2026 8:43 am

To: 'Jason Kiss' s9(2)(a)

Cc: 'Katherine Barcham' s9(2)(a); 'Karyn Brice'

s9(2)(a); 'Krista Pritchard' s9(2)(a); 'Victoria Wray' s9(2)(a); Jasmine Lindsay

s9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: DPO members for DAS Reference Group

Kia ora ano,

I have heard back from our Kaihautū Māori team, please also include:

- Kāpō Māori Aotearoa - [Contact Us | Kāpō Māori Aotearoa](#)
- Te Ao Mārama Aotearoa (TAMA) - info@tama.nz

Ngā mihi,

Shu Run

From: Shu Run Yap

Sent: Monday, 9 March 2026 4:45 pm

To: 'Jason Kiss' s9(2)(a)

Cc: 'Katherine Barcham' s9(2)(a); 'Karyn Brice'

s9(2)(a); 'Krista Pritchard' s9(2)(a); 'Victoria Wray' s9(2)(a); Jasmine Lindsay

s9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: DPO members for DAS Reference Group

Kia ora Jason,

Hope you had a good weekend!

Here is a list of groups we recommend you get in touch with:

- DPO Coalition ([Disabled People's Organisations Coalition | Whaikaha - Ministry of Disabled People](#))
- Parent/Family/Whānau network (Chair is s9(2)(c))
- iLead (ilead@yesdisability.org.nz)
- National Disabled Students' Association [Contact us for advocacy - National Disabled Students' Association](#)

- Faiva Ora Leadership Group (Principal Pacific advisor to the government on disability issues, co-chair is s9(2)(a))

I'm waiting for one more confirmation from our Kaihautū Māori team on which groups to include.

I would also recommend that you:

- let the groups know which other groups you have contacted, as many of them work closely with each other
- let them know what skills you are looking for, and how many seats are available within this reference group
- use the Cabinet Fees Framework to guide the koha/compensation for the non-government members of the DASRG [CO \(25\) 2: Cabinet Fees Framework for members appointed to bodies in which the Crown has an interest | Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet \(DPMC\)](#)

I know it's quite a big list, however this would ensure that there is fairness and openness around the selection process.

Let me know if you wanted to jump on a call to go over any of this.

Ngā mihi,
Shu Run

From: Shu Run Yap

Sent: Friday, 6 March 2026 8:31 am

To: 'Jason Kiss' s9(2)(a); Jasmine Lindsay
s9(2)(a)

Cc: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a); Karyn Brice
s9(2)(a); Krista Pritchard s9(2)(a); Victoria
Wray s9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: DPO members for DAS Reference Group

Kia ora Jason,

Happy Friday!

Just flagging that I'm still working on this one – I'm getting some advice internally on how to best engage with the DPO Coalition (email or meeting), knowing that the timeframes are

somewhat urgent. They have a few meetings this month but I don't know when those might be.

I'll get back to you as soon as I have next steps.

Ngā mihi,
Shu Run

From: Jason Kiss s9(2)(a)
Sent: Wednesday, 4 March 2026 10:29 am
To: Shu Run Yap s9(2)(a); Jasmine Lindsay
s9(2)(a)
Cc: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a); Karyn Brice
s9(2)(a); Krista Pritchard s9(2)(a); Victoria
Wray s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: DPO members for DAS Reference Group

Kia ora Shu Run,

Thanks for the quick turnaround.

Some answers:

- **What skills are you looking for? Is it impairment-based advice, technical expertise, or a combination?**
A combination, really, as we need people who can represent the needs of their disability group in the context of a technical accessibility standard and the initiatives that the GCDO and Whaikaha will be delivering to help improve accessibility across the system. In addition to feedback on what goes in the DAS, the DASRG will be asked to help prioritise all the potential initiatives for the DAS programme of support. (These same initiatives are what we will be prioritising together in our upcoming workshops with you and Jasmine, but the SRG will also have a chance to consider and prioritise.)
- **When do you need to confirm the participants for the DARSRG?**
Ideally in the next few weeks so that we can get the invites out and allow recipients a few weeks to decide and confirm.

- **We're happy to speak to the Advice DPOs within the Alternate Formats service to get their thoughts on this. We have a meeting with them tomorrow morning so can bring this up then.**

That would be swell, thank you!

- **We would suggest presenting to the DPO Coalition with the specific skills and experience you require, and then they can select the representatives themselves. This approach could help maintain openness and avoid any perception of favouritism.**

I can certainly attend an upcoming meeting of the DPO Coalition to describe what we're looking for

- **We suggest you budget koha for the DPO participants, as participating in this might mean that they step away from their usual job responsibilities, which creates a cost for the DPOs.**

Very much appreciate that DPOs are underfunded and under-resourced, so will look at budget for koha. The DASRG is expected to run for a year or so and include monthly meetings as well as ongoing contributions between meetings through our discussion platform, so there's a definite commitment involved, but we're expecting that representatives on the DASRG will be attending in a professional capacity: their organisation will contribute the time as part of its work.

Please let us know what the Coalition says. What time's the meeting tomorrow morning? I've a 10-11am meeting, but could possible attend if doing so works for you and the meeting time for me 😊

Ngā mihi,

Jason

From: Shu Run Yap s9(2)(a)

Date: Wednesday, 4 March 2026 at 9:37 AM

To: Jason Kiss s9(2)(a) Jasmine Lindsay
s9(2)(a)
Cc: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a), Karyn Brice
s9(2)(a), Krista Pritchard s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: DPO members for DAS Reference Group

IN-CONFIDENCE

Kia ora Jason,

How exciting!

With regards to the potential participants,

- What skills are you looking for? Is it impairment-based advice, technical expertise, or a combination?
- When do you need to confirm the participants for the DARSG?
- We're happy to speak to the Advice DPOs within the Alternate Formats service to get their thoughts on this. We have a meeting with them tomorrow morning so can bring this up then.
- We would suggest presenting to the DPO Coalition with the specific skills and experience you require, and then they can select the representatives themselves. This approach could help maintain openness and avoid any perception of favouritism.
- We suggest you budget koha for the DPO participants, as participating in this might mean that they step away from their usual job responsibilities, which creates a cost for the DPOs.

I can jump on a call to talk through some of this, let me know.

Ngā mihi,

Shu Run Yap (pronunciation: shoo roon, [pronouns she/her](#))

Principal Advisor, Operations and Delivery
Strategy & Enablement

Whaikaha | Ministry of Disabled People

s9(2)(a) | [Whaikaha.govt.nz](https://www.whaikaha.govt.nz)

Check out our new employment resource [OneinSix](#)

Learn about our free [Accessible information training](#)



From: Jason Kiss s9(2)(a)
Sent: Tuesday, 3 March 2026 12:47 pm
To: Jasmine Lindsay s9(2)(a) Shu Run Yap
s9(2)(a)
Cc: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a); Karyn Brice
s9(2)(a); Krista Pritchard s9(2)(a)
Subject: DPO members for DAS Reference Group

Howdy gang 😊

We're putting together the list of prospective members for the Digital Accessibility Standard Reference Group (DASRG). Most of the DASRG work will happen through an accessible discussion platform and monthly meetings.

The DASRG will comprise select representatives from the disability community, government agencies, and suppliers. We'll also be inviting some representatives from the Māori and tertiary education communities.

We need to keep the numbers manageable, but for disability, we are thinking of having 1 person from Whaikaha (one of you? someone else?), and then 4 more people from DPOs. We are thinking of inviting participants from the following to try to cover a good range of disability/impairment:

- Blind Citizens NZ (maybe s9(2)(a))
- Deaf Aotearoa
- DPA (ideally representing sighted non-mouse users – or perhaps Muscular Dystrophy would suit better here?)

- People First

We can budget for and arrange koha if required, but ideally participants will be attending/contributing as employees of their respective organisations and koha won't be required.

We're keen to get your advice on this plan and the communications we send out.

Ngā mihi nui ki a kōrua,

Jason

Jason Kiss (he/they/ia)

Kaitohutohu Paerewa Tukutuku | Web Standards Consultant

Government Chief Digital Office (GCDO)

Te Pūnaha Matihiko | Digital Services Branch

Te Tari Taiwhenua | Department of Internal Affairs

dia.govt.nz | digital.govt.nz

Please note that I don't work Fridays.

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4 March 2026

From: Shu Run Yap

Sent: Wednesday, 4 March 2026 4:24 pm

To: 'Jason Kiss' s9(2)(a); Jasmine Lindsay

s9(2)(a)

Cc: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a); Victoria Wray

s9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: Accessible discussion tool and consultation tool?

Kia ora Jason,

My colleague Dr. Claire Bretherton (Director, Data and Insights) was the one who procured Accessible Surveys and carried out all the associated work. She said:

We commissioned a full Security and Privacy Assessment from Bastion (report attached). Overall Bastion were pretty positive about the platform, and particularly about the responsiveness of the Accessible Surveys team. As with any similar assessment there were some small risks identified that were accepted by our CISO and a couple where a remediation plan was developed after finalising the report.

The report is based on MSD IT system needs, but you might find it useful and sufficient that you don't have to go through your own separate assessment.

Claire is happy to speak to your team if you have any questions 😊

Ngā mihi,
Shu Run

From: Jason Kiss s9(2)(a)

Sent: Wednesday, 4 March 2026 2:01 pm

To: Shu Run Yap s9(2)(a); Jasmine Lindsay

s9(2)(a) >

Cc: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a); Victoria Wray

s9(2)(a)

Subject: Re: Accessible discussion tool and consultation tool?

Quick follow up: Did you folks get any security certification & accreditation for Accessible Surveys?

DIA is likely to insist, but perhaps there's a chance we could reuse yours, if there's such a thing?

Ta!

Jason

From: Jason Kiss s9(2)(a)
Date: Wednesday, 4 March 2026 at 11:53 AM
To: Shu Run Yap s9(2)(a), Jasmine Lindsay
s9(2)(a)
Cc: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a), Victoria Wray
s9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: Accessible discussion tool and consultation tool?

This is super helpful! Thanks, Shu Run.

Didn't know about Accessible Surveys. Definitely could work for the consultation, and it looks like it has a Discussion App add-on that could be used for the Reference Group. Will have to investigate.

We're already planning for Easy Read and NZSL, so hopefully will have a good lead time on those for July.

Thanks again!

J

From: Shu Run Yap s9(2)(a)
Date: Wednesday, 4 March 2026 at 11:28 AM
To: Jason Kiss s9(2)(a), Jasmine Lindsay
s9(2)(a)
Cc: Katherine Barcham s9(2)(a) Victoria Wray
s9(2)(a)
Subject: RE: Accessible discussion tool and consultation tool?

IN-CONFIDENCE

Kia ora Jason,

We're loving the questions and more than happy to help!

For the New Zealand Disability Strategy Refresh, we ended up using the following for **public consultation**:

- Accessible Surveys ([accessible surveys](#)) for consultation, as well as an MS Word form (this was used a lot), and an Easy Read version. Accessible Surveys is compatible with Alternate Formats but you will need to ensure that the NZSL and Easy Read translations are done early so that there's time to upload them to the tool.
- Videomail for people who wanted to send in videos of themselves (not used as much, but was used nonetheless)
- Email
- Microsoft Teams for meetings and focus groups.
- In person meetings

I can link you up with the team that ran this if you wanted to ask them more about the process. Can also show you Accessible Surveys, this is what we're using now to collate the feedback for the monthly Accessible Information Training.

For the **Reference Group**, the closest arrangements we have to this are the Strategic Advisory Group and Accessibility Advisory Group. For these groups, we just use:

- Microsoft Teams for meetings
- Old school MS Word Docs sent via email

I've not heard of Delib's Dialogue or CitizenSpace before. They look promising!

- I think the platforms would need to be tested with a few screen reader users, I would suggest at least one sighted and one non-sighted.
- Will there be a non-digital alternative for participating in the Reference Group? If there isn't, it probably needs to be highlighted as a risk for the process.

Yes, happy to jump on a call if you would like. Let me know.

Ngā mihi,

Shu Run Yap (pronunciation: shoo roon, [pronouns she/her](#))

Principal Advisor, Operations and Delivery
Strategy & Enablement

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From: Jason Kiss <s9(2)(a)>
Sent: Wednesday, 4 March 2026 10:05 am
To: Jasmine Lindsay <s9(2)(a)>; Shu Run Yap <s9(2)(a)>
Cc: Katherine Barcham <s9(2)(a)>; Victoria Wray <s9(2)(a)>
Subject: Accessible discussion tool and consultation tool?

Kia ora anō,

(We'll make you sick of us, yet, with all our requests!)

For both the DAS Stakeholder Reference Group and the public consultation on the DAS, we'll need accessible platforms.

For the Reference Group, we need some kind of discussion forum where we can share documents and have (threaded) discussions. We're currently thinking of [Delib's Dialogue](#).

For the consultation, we need a...consultation tool 😊 We're thinking [Delib's CitizenSpace](#).

Both of these tools are highly accessible as we understand it, but we may struggle to get budget in time, especially for the Reference Group discussion tool.

Does Whaikaha use any discussion tools or consultation tools? What would you recommend?

For the Reference Group, in case we can't acquire a dedicated tool, we're thinking that a Google Group might be our best backup.

Really interested in your thoughts on this and any suggestions.

Can always jump on a Teams call if that's easier.

Thanks!

Jason

Jason Kiss (he/they/ia)

Kaitohutohu Paerewa Tukutuku | Web Standards Consultant

Government Chief Digital Office (GCDO)

Te Pūnaha Matihiko | Digital Services Branch

Te Tari Taiwhenua | Department of Internal Affairs

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Internal Affairs
Te Tari Taiwhenua

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