Framing for the summit

Purpose of the summit
Together, drive creative change towards positive justice that uplifts the wellbeing of all people in Aotearoa/New Zealand.

Together with people who have caused harm, people who have experienced harm, families and whānau of both, experts, stakeholders, ministers, the public sector, and the public. We all have a stake in this drive. Provide guidance rails to encourage positive behaviour and lead conversation in areas we need to explore, whilst still maintaining an open mind and embracing useful emergent threads.

Creative = give permission to think differently and pursue new ideas, especially when these are potentially disruptive to the status quo.

Change towards = agree the need and shift the course of events to move in a more desirable direction based on our objectives.

Positive = acknowledging that ‘criminal’ language is negatively self-perpetuating.

justice = safe, just, fair. We will focus on criminal justice, instead of civil, family, environmental, or commercial justice. Justice includes deterrence and prevention, instead of civil, family, environmental, or commercial justice.

Outputs to fulfill purpose and outcomes
1. Ideas for a new focusing and aligning aspiration for our justice system
2. A clear, shared description of the burning platforms, with license and intention from participants to address it
3. Ideas for what shifts we must make in order to have a positive justice system for Aotearoa
4. The above documented in an Insights report, capturing the conversations, outputs, shifts, and next steps

Objectives to fulfill the summit purpose and outcomes
Together, all participants will:
1. be human – have power-leveling conversations, and prepare to collaborate together as a system
2. listen to all voices – gain empathy, have the courage to stand in each others’ shoes, stop talking past each other
3. understand the system – experience the breadth and depth of our justice system
4. understand the imperative – the extent of our burning platforms
5. be explicit – about the intent, principles, and assumptions underpinning our current system
6. make to explore – the intent, principles, and desired outcomes from a positive justice system for Aotearoa
7. unlock – share what we know, what has been done, what is underway, and what works in order to move forward
8. create space – the conditions for good choices about what to keep, stop, start, or change
9. create a way forward – explore what must change in our hearts and minds in order to move forward

Participants needed to fulfill purpose and outcomes
1. Community champions for justice
2. People with their hands on the levers
3. People who need to hear about what’s not working
4. People who need to act, who will implement reform
5. People with lived experience
6. At least 400 must be Māori – especially change enablers
7. People who can help influence and shift public perception

Inputs needed to fulfill purpose and outcomes
1. Voices, insights, and stories from all sectors that we know need to be heard
2. Work done and underway across the justice system
3. Insights, intent, strategies from the broader justice sector, including the criminal justice sector strategic intent 2019
4. A transformation methodology and theory of change
5. Exemplars like Puao-Te-Atutu, Te Tiriti negotiations, or the Sustainable Development Goals
6. Evidence and accurate data
7. Situation room participation from all stakeholders

Things we’ll take as a ‘given’ at the summit
1. The summit must be safe, welcoming, and meaningful for all participants. That will require all of us to offer and extend trust towards each other
2. The summit must be particularly relevant for Māori, who are overrepresented in the justice system
3. The summit is a kick start of public engagement and of reform. We must engage at all levels, continuously
4. We need all parties on board for reform, listening to each other, collaborating together, working with all voices, demonstrating working as a system by doing it
5. Some conversations will be challenging for some people
6. We don’t have all the answers – and it’s okay to be uncertain. Fear the feel and do it anyway – and seek evidence along the way
7. To be heard, you must listen. To listen, we must check our privilege at the door
8. We must have a more nuanced conversation than the current public commentary
9. Assume good intent – ask if you’re unsure

Key success indicators that we’ve fulfilled our purpose and outcomes
1. We close in on a shared aspiration for the system
2. Voices of ‘unheard’ and lived experience are heard
3. People return to their communities and share what they learned
4. Public/media commentary shifts closer towards the intent of Hapaiata te Oranga Tangata

Design principles for the summit
1. Safely acknowledge the grief caused by the system
2. Recognise and balance hope and grief
3. Be very clear about the mandate for change from the authorising environment
4. Level set/power balance from the start – and throughout
5. Use voices to shape the experience
6. Design a visceral and transformative experience
7. Change the expected – not just plenary/break outs
8. Provide many ways to engage – moments of self work, intimate contributions, rongoa, group work, and whole group work
9. Allow participants to self direct
10. Provide opportunities to make, together
11. Invest effort in what is used, not what is useful or interesting
12. Confront challenges with hope. Believe we can change. Watch out for reverting to legacy thinking or behaviour.

What problems is the summit addressing?
11. We do not have a shared, audacious, worthwhile aspiration for the system [e.g. fewer prisons, safer people]
12. As such, there may be activities that do not lead to outcomes
13. We’re not working together of effectively enough as a system or society to keep people safe
14. There’s too much conversation about incidents and not enough about causality or the system itself
15. We’re not courageously calling out what really must change – that is the current system is overrepresented with Māori. “It’s really hard to end up in prison – unless you’re Māori”

Key questions to explore during the summit
1. How do we engage the public in work underway?
2. What makes sense to discuss regionally? Nationally? Locally?
3. How does our current system support those we know need support?
4. How might we empower every person, organisation, and whānau to play their role in upholding positive social norms?
5. How might we integrate cultural views of justice and social wellbeing?
6. How might we enhance positive social bonds/networks to support a just and humane society?
7. How might we engage and articulate a new paradigm for justice that takes into account economics, experiences, and social wellbeing?
8. How might we debate the focus of a system currently designed to “lock people up”?
9. How might we address the role of the justice system in the colonisation of Māori?

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Doc 4 - Framing the Summit