



Leveraging Relationships for Civic Engagement

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New Zealand Parliament

Pāremata Aotearoa

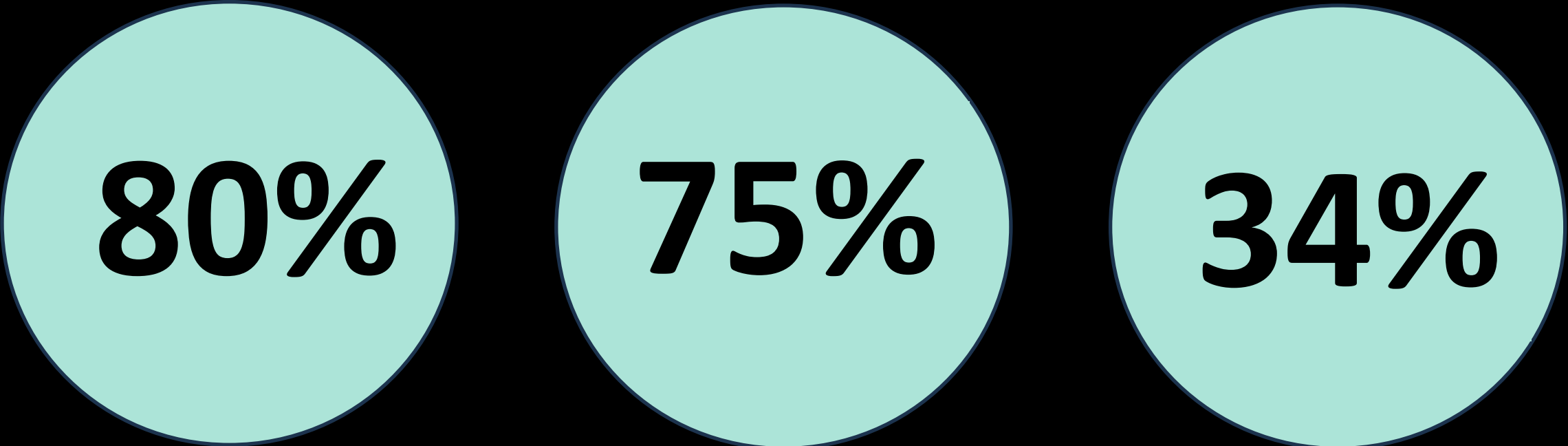


Why does civic engagement matter?





Perceptions of Parliament Research Project



80%

Agree that New Zealanders share their views with Parliament on what is important to them.

75%

Have voted in a general election at some point.

34%

Would like to have more engagement with Parliament.

The Good





29%

Agree that Parliament
is inclusive of
communities across
New Zealand

20%

Agree that
Parliament listens
to people

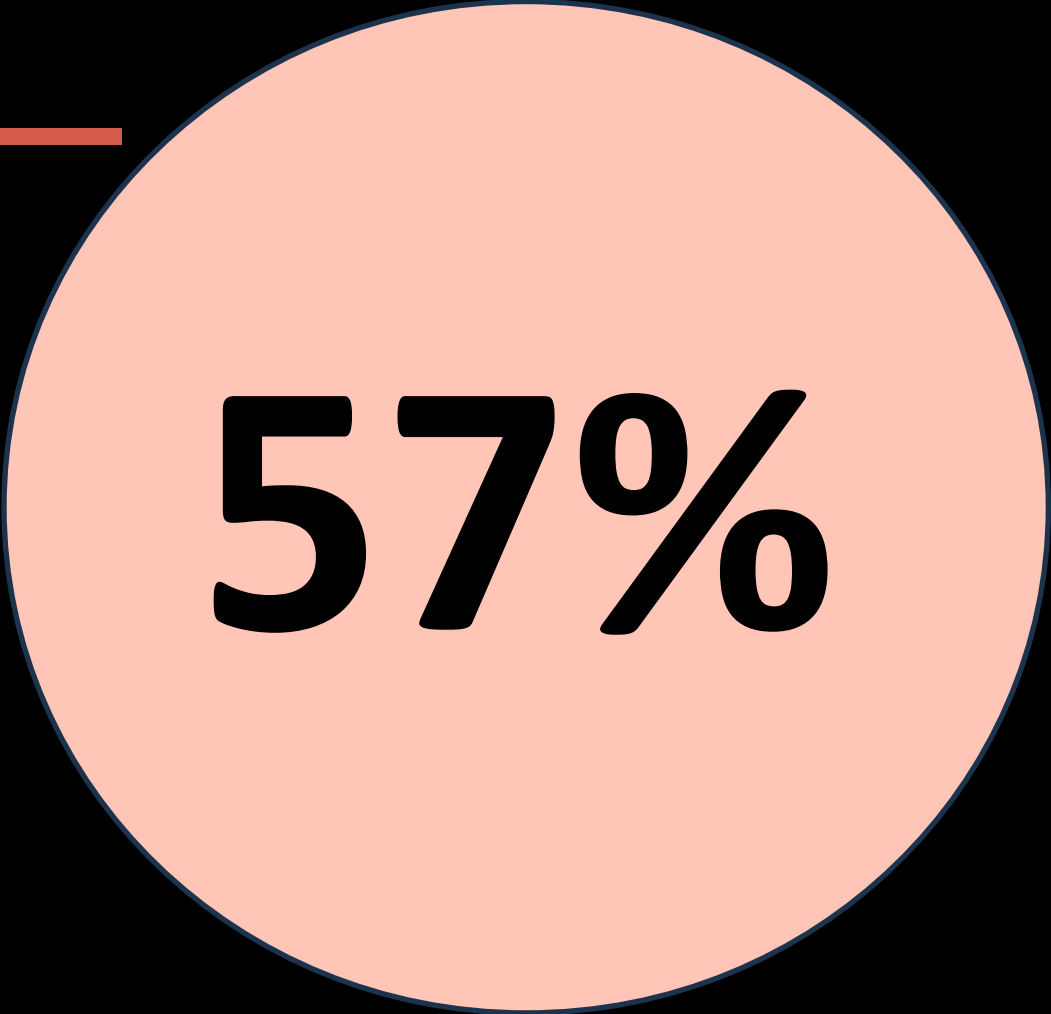
18%

Agree that
Parliament is for
'people like me'

The Bad



The Ugly

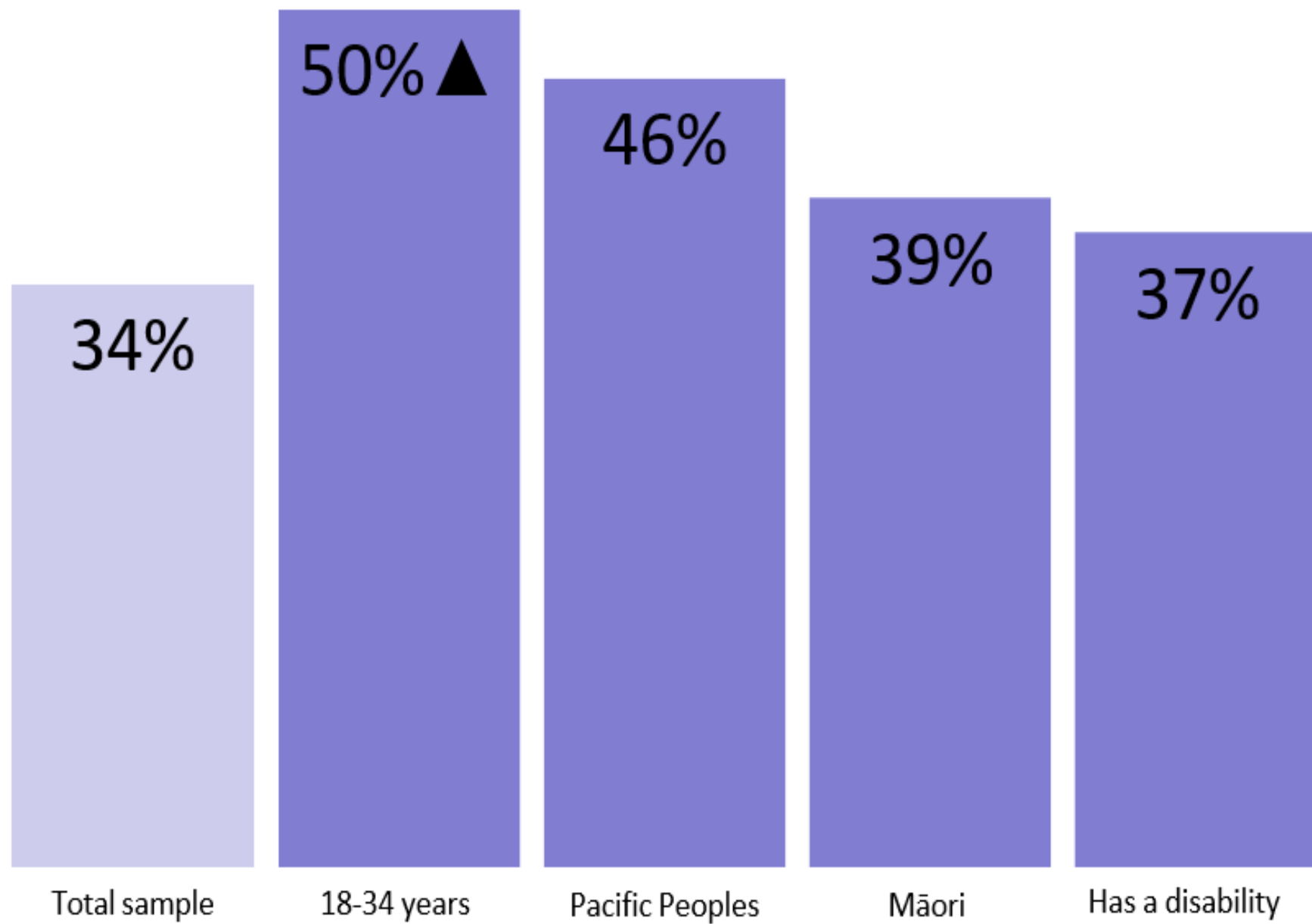


57%

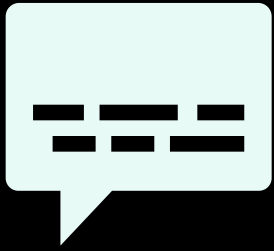
**Confused the role of Parliament with the
role of Government**



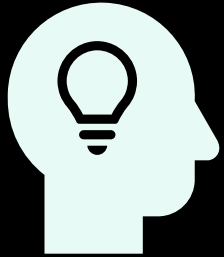
The implications



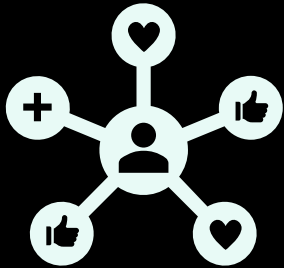
▲▼ Significantly higher / lower than total



Communication and access



Knowledge and literacy



Reach and messaging



Emotional reward



Turning Insights into Action



Case Study 1:

Electoral Commission

Te Kaitiaki Take Kōwhiri

Enrol. Vote. Be heard.

vote.nz



**ELECTORAL
COMMISSION**
TE KAITIAKI TAKE KŌWHIRI





KARAEHE KAEWA

WANDERING CLASSROOM

Brush up on your knowledge of all things Parliament with Karāehe Kaewa, Parliament Education's very own online learning hub.

[Sign Up](#)



Understanding Elections

An interactive explanation of how democracy, elections and Parliament work in Aotearoa New Zealand.



Free

Get started

Your vote is more powerful than you think - but only if you know how to use it.

This interactive module breaks down how democracy actually works in Aotearoa New Zealand: what Parliament does, how elections are run, and why your voice matters. You'll get to grips with MMP, find out what the Electoral Commission does, and learn exactly what you need to do to make sure you're ready to vote when the day comes.

By the end of this lesson you should be able to...

DESCRIBE

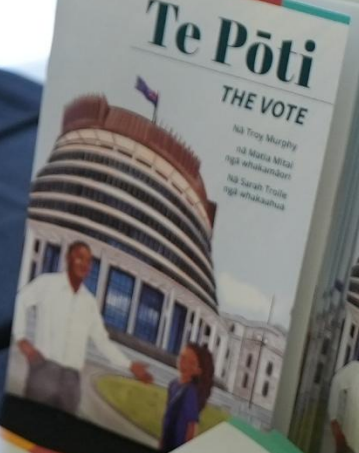
The role of the general election in Aotearoa New Zealand

EXPLAIN

The function of Mixed Member Proportional (MMP)

DISCUSS

The importance of participation in elections



ELECTORAL
COMMISSION
AITIAKI TAKE KŌWHIRI
te.nz

ELECTORAL
COMMISSION
TE Kaitiaki Take Kōwhiri
vote.nz



Ratonga Whare Pāremata



Engagement Te Whakapāpātanga Pāremata



PARLIAMENTARY SERVICE
Te Ratonga Whare Pāremata

Office of the Clerk of the
House of Representatives
Te Tari o Te Māhara o Te Whare Māngai

WHO'S WHO?

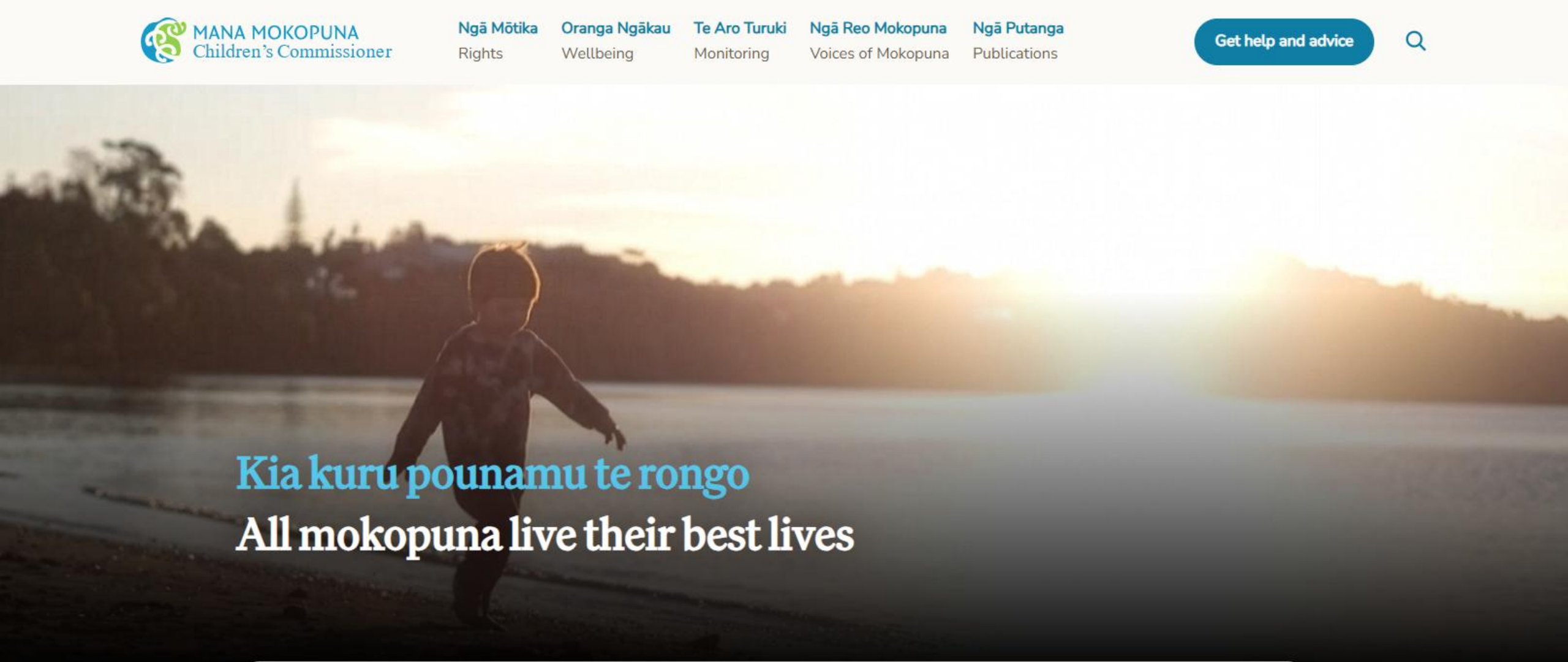
The different roles in Parliament

SENIOR MEMBER	SENIOR MEMBER
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE The Speaker of the House is the most senior member of the House of Representatives. They are responsible for maintaining order and ensuring that the House operates smoothly.	SENIOR MEMBER Senior members of the House of Representatives are those who have been in the House for a long time and have a high level of experience and expertise.
THE CABINET The Cabinet is the most senior group of Ministers in the Government. They are responsible for making the most important decisions about the country.	THE HOUSE - BUSINESS The House of Representatives is the main body of the Parliament. It is responsible for passing laws and holding the Government to account.





Case Study 2: Children's Commissioner Mana Mokopuna



Kia kuru pounamu te rongo **All mokopuna live their best lives**



Help and advice for whānau, parents and caregivers

[See more](#)



Find out your rights as a mokopuna

[See more](#)



Reports, media releases, submissions and resources

[See more](#)



Session One: Elections

Cast your vote in an interactive elections activity run by the Electoral Commission. In this session, you will:

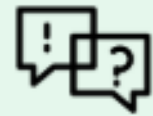
- See how MMP works in action
- Explore why voting matters
- Compare List MPs and Electorate MPs



Session Two: Parliament 101

Take a closer look at how Parliament works with Parliament's Education Team. In this session, you will:

- Break down what Parliament actually does
- See how people across Aotearoa are represented
- Track how a law is made, step by step



Session Three: Debating Roleplay

Put your ideas to the test in a Parliamentary-style debate on a mock bill of your choice. In this session, you will:

- Step into the shoes of the House of Representatives
- Learn the difference between Members' bills and Government bills
- Collaborate and challenge ideas as Government and Opposition



Session Four: Participation

Knowing your mana, knowing your rights. Your voice and your whakaaro have value. Learn to speak up, get involved, and understand what it means to have a say with Mana Mokopuna.

- Discover your rights within Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- Unpack what it means to activate your mana and have a say.
- Explore ways to take action on issues you care about.

Tō Whare, Tō Kainga

- Many schools face significant barriers to visiting Parliament
- 18 schools applied within the first week
- 27 schools in the region applied
- **Session 1** – Electoral Commission
- **Session 2 & 3** – Parliament Education Team
- **Session 4** – Mana Mokopuna

The image shows three overlapping 'My Plate' food guides from the USDA, illustrating the recommended daily food intake for different age groups. The guides are color-coded: light blue for a 2-year-old child, light green for a 4-year-old child, and light yellow for an adult. Each guide is divided into five sections representing food groups: Grains, Vegetables, Fruits, Protein, and Dairy. The portions are indicated by icons and numbers.

Food Group	2-year-old child	4-year-old child	Adult
Grains	1/2 cup	1/2 cup	3/4 cup
Vegetables	1/2 cup	1/2 cup	1 1/2 cups
Fruits	1/2 cup	1/2 cup	1 1/2 cups
Protein	1/4 cup	1/4 cup	1/4 cup
Dairy	1/2 cup	1/2 cup	1 1/2 cups

A large, disorganized pile of discarded business cards and envelopes is scattered across a blue surface. The cards are mostly white, with some featuring green or orange accents. Some cards have text, while others are blank. The envelopes are also white, with some showing a green design. The pile is messy, with cards and envelopes overlapping and crumpled, suggesting they have been thrown away.

The image shows a white cardboard ballot box. On top, there is an orange label with the words "BALLOT PAPERS" printed in white, but the text is oriented upside down relative to the box's top surface. A long, narrow slot is cut into the top of the box for inserting ballots. Below this slot, on the front face of the box, is a small circular hole. A checklist is attached to the front face of the box. The checklist has several columns with headers: "Ballot number", "Issued by", "Checked by", "Date", and "Received by". There are multiple rows for data entry. In the foreground, there are some scattered papers, including a green one and a white one, and a small yellow object.



Tobias

Chocolate Party

The main issues my party cares about are (circle 3):

Education	Health	The Environment	Technology	Art
The Environment	Culture	The Economy	Sport	Science
Farming	Transport	Equality		

Think about the issues your party cares about
What does your party want to make?

1

2

3





Case Study 3: YouthLaw Aotearoa



*Free Legal Help for
Children & Young People
throughout Aotearoa*

Trending topics...

THE YOUTH JUSTICE SYSTEM

SEARCHES & CONFISCATIONS

CONSENT

WORK

OUR VOICE. WAHA.

prouder about their place in the world.

Waha is a programme that builds collective understanding of citizenship, civics, and change. It's a gateway for young people to find their own voice, their collective voice, and raise themselves and their people up.

About

Waha brings civics education to students. The programme is designed to engage young people in a positive, motivating, and uplifting way.

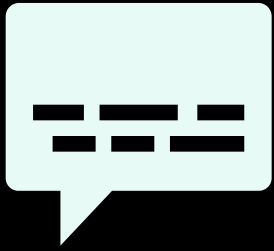
In reo Māori, "waha" can mean gateway, an opening, or a passage. Here, the subject of civics is made open, engaging and relevant to young people. As a verb, "waha" takes on an even richer meaning: to rise up. In this context, Waha serves as a gateway to rise up towards democracy.

[Read More >](#)

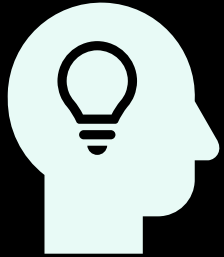




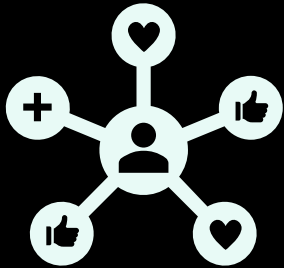
Key Takeaways



Communication and access



Knowledge and literacy



Reach and messaging



Emotional reward



Questions?
