***MAORI DATA MANAGEMENT:***

***Research question for University of Otago***

# Context

Water Safety New Zealand (WSNZ) NZ is currently refreshing its Māori strategy and seeking to improve its capability to work with Māori. It has developed a project plan for the strategy refresh that contains five different workstreams, including one focused on data, research and evaluation. This workstream looks at some key Māori knowledge management issues for the water safety sector and includes the following milestone:

* Advice to CSRG Data and Research Working Group on Māori data management issues for WSNZ.

WSNZ is looking for specialist Māori advice from the University of Otago to inform the development of this output.

Outlined below is:

* why the issue is considered important;
* the key research questions WSNZ would like advice on
* potential research directions.

This material should guide the development of the advice from the University of Otago.

***Māori Data management issues***

The availability of new data sets and sophisticated technologies has enabled new and exciting data uses that can transform how individuals see, act and engage with the world. As data use and capability builds, a balance needs to be struck between enabling greater data use whilst ensuring the protection of privacy rights and ensuring that data is treated ethically, securely and safely.

The water safety sector envisages a future where its organisations have access to the data they need to make evidence-based decisions and there is cross-organisational investment in data capture, access and sharing. This shared data will support more sophisticated analysis and understanding of the causal factors underlying injury and death in and around water, which in turn will allow for better targeting of safety messages and campaigns, and improved service monitoring and evaluation.

Māori have also recognised the potential of data and some see it as a taonga, with an associated need to enable Māori to build data capability, access more data, and use it as a strategic asset. In addition, a number of concerns have also been raised around the management of Māori data (which has been defined as data that is held by Māori, made by Māori or contains any Māori content or association).

***Research questions***

1. Identify the nature and scope of water safety/drowning prevention data management issues relevant to Māori, including:

* Privacy and security
* Data sharing/access and appropriate use
* Decision-making rights around data
* Cultural requirements or sensitivities associated with data
* Claims to value streams generated by data

1. Discuss how do these issues apply to:

* Data collected under a statutory mandate (eg Coroner)
* Administrative data collected by water safety sector organisations (eg WSFL data)
* Data access and sharing agreements WSNZ has with third parties.

***Research directions***

This advice could be informed by:

* The concept of Māori Data Sovereignty and its potential impact on WSNZ and the wider water safety sector.
* The treatment of data as taonga (eg see writings of K Taiuru) and The Government Chief Data Steward’s Data Strategy and Roadmap for New Zealand which makes statements that refers to Data being a taonga.
* Consideration of manaakitanga (data users show mutual respect) and kaitiakitanga (all New Zealanders become the guardians of our taonga by making sure that all data uses are managed in a highly trusted, inclusive, and protected way).