



Te Poari Kaimātai  
Hinengaro o Aotearoa

NEW ZEALAND PSYCHOLOGISTS BOARD

# Scopes of Practice Review

Purpose, FAQs and Indicative  
Timeline

# NZPB STRATEGY ON A PAGE

## OUR PURPOSE

Hauora for all - transforming psychology in Aotearoa

## VISION

Everybody can access safe and effective psychology, when they need it, in a way that works for them

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

### ACCESSIBILITY, ACCEPTABILITY, AND EQUITY

We will improve accessibility, acceptability and equity in psychology practice, through the use of data and evidence that advocates for necessary changes to the sector.



### FUTURE WORKFORCE

We will seek changes in the training and structuring of the psychology workforce so that psychology need is met by an appropriate range of competent psychological services.



### BUILDING TRUST WITH THE PSYCHOLOGY PROFESSION

We will strengthen engagement with the psychology profession and encourage two way communications.



### ELEVATING MAORI PARADIGMS IN PSYCHOLOGY

We will support our workforce to be able to deliver to tangata whenua. We will support the bicultural space to be embraced and understood.



### LEADERSHIP

To transform psychology in Aotearoa, we will lead the profession to embrace the challenges ahead. This will strengthen the mechanisms we have in place to protect public safety.



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# Why Review?

- The Board's primary responsibility is to protect the health and safety of Aotearoa New Zealand public.
- The Board has a duty under section 14 of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 to ensure scopes of practice are fit for purpose and enable a flexible and responsive workforce.
- In 2023, the Board commenced a process to review its scope of practice.
- The Board has not made any decision(s) in relation to this review, and it remains open-minded.

Safe  
Responsive  
Flexible  
Enabling

Future  
Focused



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# Why Consider a Change?

- As the Board developed its strategy *Hauora for all* it identified the need to ensure robust mechanisms are in place to protect public safety.
- This includes ensuring scopes of practice are fit for purpose, consistent with the Act, and enable a flexible and responsive workforce in an ever-changing health sector.
- The Board is committed to discharging its responsibility, over time, to ensure future practice remains demonstrably within the legal framework but is open minded about how that will be achieved.



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# What Does This Mean For Me?

- Nothing has changed.
- You can continue to do what you are already doing, providing that you have the appropriate qualifications and competence.
- The intent is to ensure that the Board is visibly discharging its responsibility to ensure future practice remains demonstrably within the legal framework.
- You are invited to digest the information, ask more questions, engage in the conversation further and provide more informed and considered feedback.  
The Board will determine at a later date whether there will be a further consultation period.
- Separately, ACC has been considering its approach to its Psychological Services contract. Contract decisions are up to ACC and separate from the Board's review of Scopes of Practice.



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# Engagement

- We hear that some people are concerned about what this means for their professional status or ability to work.
- We are setting up an advisory group with representation across the profession to do more thinking and contribute to this process.
- We have extended the timeframe for consultation to 31st May 2024.
- The Board strongly supports the essential work you are doing for New Zealanders.
- We want all New Zealanders to be able to share our confidence in our skilled and competent psychology workforce.
- We want your input and your perspective, so please talk to us.



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# What is the process?

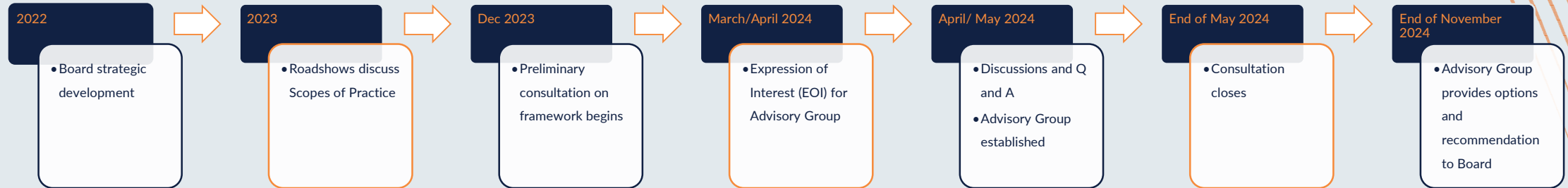
- As we develop our collective thinking and hear further from stakeholders, we remain open-minded. Nothing is off the table and any process as a result of floated options from the advisory group and consultations would be expected to take several years.
- The Board wants to hear from psychologists before making any decisions. Please contribute by the 31 May 2024.
- The Board needs to consider the feedback it receives following this consultation and any potential further consultations. This will occur at a Board meeting.
- An advisory group is being set up to ensure representation across the sector. The purpose of this group will be to review feedback, develop options and a recommendation and provide input into further iterations of any future consultation documents.
- In due course, if the Board decides to make any changes to scopes, it would Gazette the new scopes of practice notice. Once gazetted there would be a time period before it came into effect. The Board will continue to communicate with all practitioners during and following any consultations.



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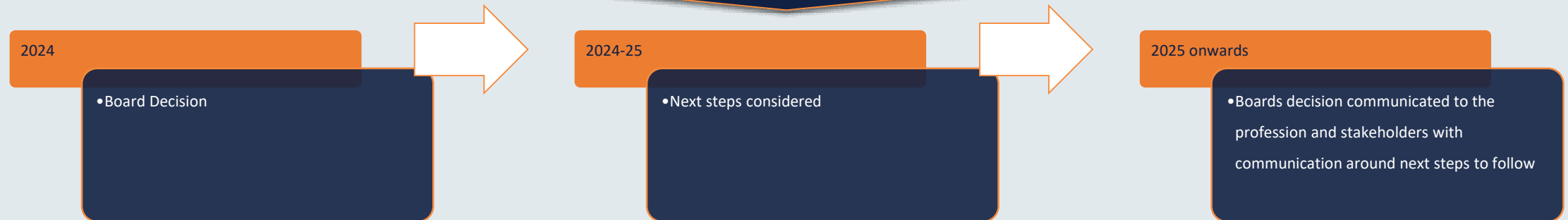
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# Timeline Overview



## Next steps

- Subject to Advisory Group advice to Board
- All dates are indicative and may change

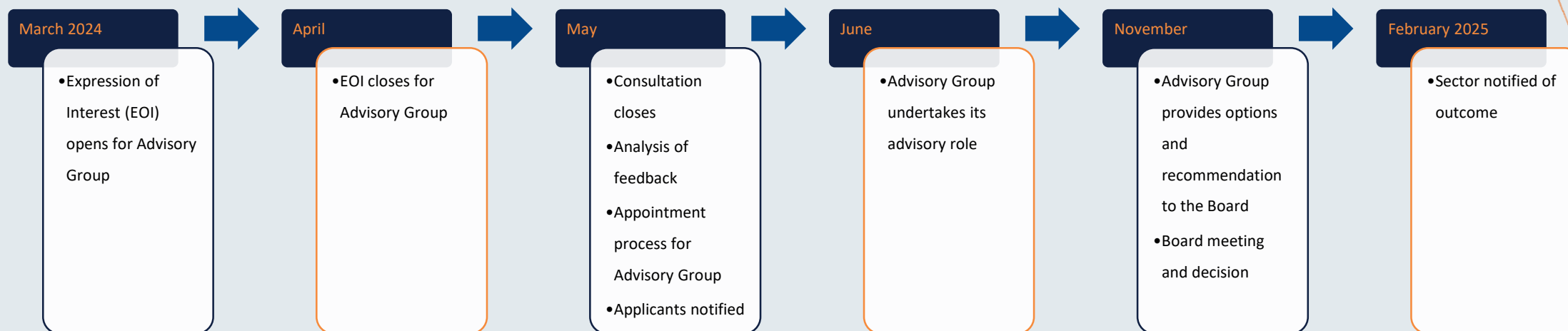


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# A Closer Look at 2024-2025



# Your Feedback is Important

1

We ask that you provide feedback through our online survey which you can access through the NZPB website

2

Please complete the survey by no later than 5pm 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024

3

The Board aims to make a decision and publish the outcome by the beginning of 2025



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