



# Tāmaki Mākaurau Ethnic Social Cohesion Monthly Meetings

PREVENTION STARTS WITH YOU

September 2024

## Topic for the Month – Gangs Legislation Amendment Bill & Police National Ethnic Strategy

With the support of Auckland Council, Albert-Eden and Puketapapa Local Boards, the Tāmaki Mākaurau Ethnic Services Team (TMEST) held the monthly Social Cohesion meeting with the Auckland Ethnic Community Groups at the Mt Eden War Memorial Hall on 19 September 2024. 145 people participated.

It was great to see Kendyl Smith, Chair of the Albert Eden Local Board and Detlev Jackson Community Broker attend this month.



Left Nanette Nathoo from NZ Indian Central Assoc and right, Detlev Jackson from Albert Eden Local Board



The meeting was facilitated by Senior Sergeant Andrew Lui, the Ethnic Responsiveness Advisor of the Tamaki Makaurau Ethnic services Team

If you have any questions or wish to contribute to this newsletter, please email :

[ethnicauckland@police.govt.nz](mailto:ethnicauckland@police.govt.nz)

Superintendent Scott Gemmell, Director of Police Tāmaki Makaurau Partnerships shared information of the Gangs Legislation Amendment Bill.

Supt Gemmell welcomed the many questions raised by the ethnic community leaders.



Superintendent Scott Gemmell

## What does this new legislation mean to the NZ Police and the communities at large?

Communities can naturally become fearful when gangs gather in public places. Police can utilise this Bill to disrupt gatherings that have the potential to escalate into criminal behaviours.

This is especially so when gangs display their insignia in groups in the public which can cause the communities to feel intimidated.

Detailed official information can be obtained via this link

[Gangs Legislation Amendment Bill 23-1 \(2024\), Government Bill – New Zealand Legislation](#)

The second half of the meeting was a presentation by Superintendent Rakesh Naidoo from the National Partnerships Manager – Ethnic where he explained the 7 focuses of the National Ethnic Strategy.

### What is the Ethnic strategy?

- The refreshed Strategy is a strategic document that ensures that NZP as an organisation are providing better outcomes for Ethnic communities, which includes many marginalised groups.
- The Strategy holds NZP and all staff accountable to improve services for Ethnic communities.
- The 7 focus areas are aligned to 'Our Business' priorities of Enabling the Frontline, Community Reassurance and Core Policing. Activities relating to the 7 focus areas can be implemented in every role across the organisation to uplift our capability. 3 priorities – people, capability, and community support and reassurance.
- These focus areas are about uplifting our ethnic representation and cultural capability, improving our systems and responses to reduce victimisation, and offending and hearing and partnering with ethnic communities to support their wellbeing.



Superintendent  
Rakesh Naidoo

### The 7 focus areas

- Increasing and maintaining Ethnic representation across all levels of Police to reflect Aotearoa New Zealand's Ethnic population
- Build Police's cultural understandings and capability
- Improving the collection, recording, analysis and sharing of data
- Police are culturally responsive to victims of crime by providing appropriate support and up to date information
- Police work with Ethnic people to address the issues that lead to repeat victimisation and offending
- Building trust and confidence in our Ethnic communities by listening and responding to the community voice
- Partnerships with community providers and government agencies to improve long-term wellbeing for Ethnic peoples

### Why is it important?

- It is important for Ethnic communities, to be considered in the way Police responds and provides services. NZP are committed to building trust, confidence, and connection with all communities.
- Ethnic communities make up approximately 20% of the total population in Aotearoa New Zealand. This number is projected to increase in the future.
- Approximately 10% of Police staff come from Ethnic communities. We need to ensure that NZP is reflective of the communities it serves, and that Ethnic staff are supported by the organisation.

