

# Chief Executive update - 30 October 2024

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Mālo ni,

As I explained in my recent [Ask the CE session](#) and in previous communications, this is the year we need to deliver on the cost savings we have committed to. This is critically important mahi, as it will allow us to move forward with confidence and for the Government to move forward with confidence in us.

Across government there is pressure to reduce costs. As a crown entity and a member of the wider government group, Kāinga Ora needs to take this into account and make robust financial decisions regarding activities that we have previously funded.

With this in mind, I have decided that we will not be allocating funding for end of year celebrations in 2024. In previous years we provided an amount per person to go towards an end of year team celebration. However, this year, given our financially tight operating environment, I believe it's not the right thing to do. As a financially responsible organisation we must remain focused on delivering our cost savings targets - we have a lot of work left to do to achieve that, and every bit helps.

Other government ministries are also adopting this approach with both the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (MHUD) and the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) also making the decision to not fund end of year celebrations for their people this year.

This decision is only for this year, and we will revisit it in 2025 taking into account our progress against our savings commitments at that time. This was not an easy decision to make, and I appreciate that it may be tough news to hear. People are still welcome, towards the end of the year, to come together, connect and acknowledge each other as they reflect on 2024.