

**HE WHENUA TAURIKURA HUI 2022**  
**30 OCTOBER – 1 NOVEMBER 2022**  
**AUCKLAND, TĀMAKI MAKAURAU**



**EVALUATION REPORT**  
**BY**



**14 NOVEMBER 2022**

**FIANZ.COM**

## COMMENTARY

In November 2019, as part of the Royal Commission Submission, FIANZ proposed a national hui where senior politicians, public sector policy makers, civil society organisations, academics and the Fourth Estate could meet to discuss issues of national security interest. Such a platform did not exist in any other country and as such would be a uniquely Aotearoa New Zealand bespoke approach. The Royal Commission agreed with our suggestion and qualified this further under Recommendation 16.

This was the second such event organised by the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC), as such there is a basis for some comparison with the previous one. However, we have not focussed on any such comparison, since the first one was a 'greenfield' event, and a contextual comparison would not be valid.

We are pleased that the DPMC have organised this hui. However, we also note that this is probably the last time. The Royal Commission was clear that the proposed National Intelligence and Security Agency (NISA) would be responsible for such an event.

### Recommendation 16

We recommend that the Government:

**Direct** the chief executive of the new national intelligence and security agency (Recommendation 2) to host an annual hui, to bring together relevant central and local government agencies, communities, civil society, the private sector and researchers (Recommendation 14) to create opportunities to build relationships and share understanding of countering violent extremism and terrorism.

Such an event cannot and should not be organised by any other entity, since the Royal Commission highlighted that one of the key role of NISA was to bring about greater community oversight and involvement in the setting of national intelligence priorities. Any attempt to modify this purpose, approach and modus (PAM) would be in effect, to devalue the No 2 Recommendation of the Royal Commission and betray the Prime Minister's promise to accept all the Royal Commission recommendations "in principle".

As such, we note that the establishment of NISA is a matter of some urgency, if such a hui is going to be organised next year\*.

*(It may well be that NISA could request He Whenua Taurikura National Centre of Research Excellence to organise this hui in the future, but that should be a decision made by NISA)*



There is absolutely no question that this hui was successful by most metrics:

- There was a wide coverage of related and relevant topics which highlighted the enormous back-end support work done by the DPMC organisers.
- The quality and range of panellists is ample proof of the depth of expertise and experience we have in Aotearoa New Zealand, and we do not need overseas experts at such national hui.
- With different government agencies being responsible for each of the panel sessions, but all cooperating under thematic cohesion, was an admirable method to highlight the ‘All-of-Government’ nexus.
- The number and background of attendees not only addressed the ‘All of Society’ approach, but also proof of the significant investment made by the government to ensure *diversity of views* and *inclusiveness of purpose*.

However, as our Black Ferns have recently shown, there is always room for improvement and *go the extra mile* to be become the envy of the world.

**Firstly**, it may be appropriate to narrow the field of topics to ensure there is time for greater in-depth and quality of robust conversation.

**Secondly**, there is a need to ensure there are wider representation of rangatahi for an informed future. They are going to carry the mantle of national security and their voices are critical.



**Thirdly**, future hui should set time aside to focus on what the agencies have achieved during the previous year on such issues as national security, CVE and social cohesion and the tangible results are presented for critical evaluation. This effectively would be a platform for democratic oversight which is a key rationale for the Royal Commission suggestion that NISA should organise such a hui. Raising issues for discussion is important, but so is the opportunity to hold the agencies accountable for what they have implemented. FIANZ considers that this oversight approach would bring considerable value to the hui and raise its national significance

All the above are aspirational requests, but ones which we consider important to take full advantage of our *smallness* as a nation.



It is also our view that this, like all other Royal Commission recommendations should be apolitical. As such, we should provide a time-limited platform for all parliamentary political parties to give their views at this hui. A platform for political cohesion is also a platform to bring about social cohesion.



Finally, a word about the people - every person from the DPMC, NZ Police, DIA, NZSIS, Ethnic Communities, GCSB, Justice, MBIE, Education, Health, PSC, HRC, MSD and others who enabled this hui to be successful deserve our **shukur** (gratitude).

FIANZ acknowledges that the army of sincere public sector officials who are trying to implement the Royal Commission recommendations have achieved much since the last hui, however the journey has just begun. Our critical insights are not criticism of their individual and collective effort, but are based on perspectives, evidence and lived experience which we consider are missing and should be included in the policies, programmes and practices.

This type of hui is a uniquely Aotearoa New Zealand feature. It provides a purposeful affirmation to need that the Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern recently identified, for a “bespoke approach” to address our national security.

**For More Information:**

Abdur Razzaq

Chairperson, FIANZ RCOI

Email: [FIANZ.Advocacy@gmail.com](mailto:FIANZ.Advocacy@gmail.com) or [info@fianz.com](mailto:info@fianz.com)



## OVERALL FINDINGS FROM THE SURVEY

The overall feedback of the Muslim participants surveyed was one of positivity.

All attendees valued the hui and there was clarity of the key purpose in the communications prior to the hui. The logistics were broadly successful, though the much-vaunted app was considered unnecessary by most respondents. This was possibly due to the perception that the app was intended to redirect or limit discussion and debate.

There was a widespread consensus with regard to preferred and least preferred sessions. It became apparent that youth voices and media figures were notably absent or underrepresented, despite their key stake in the matters discussed. Similarly, most respondents felt that there was not enough time for discussion. This is an issue which needs to be considered for future planning since much of what was presented required greater community engagement. All respondents agreed that less topics with more time for discussion, would have been better.



## **SURVEY | HE WHENUA TAURIKURA 2022**

The Federation of Islamic Associations of Aotearoa New Zealand (FIANZ) conducted a rapid formative evaluation of He Whenua Taurikura Hui 2022 by way of a sample survey of those Muslims who attended the hui.

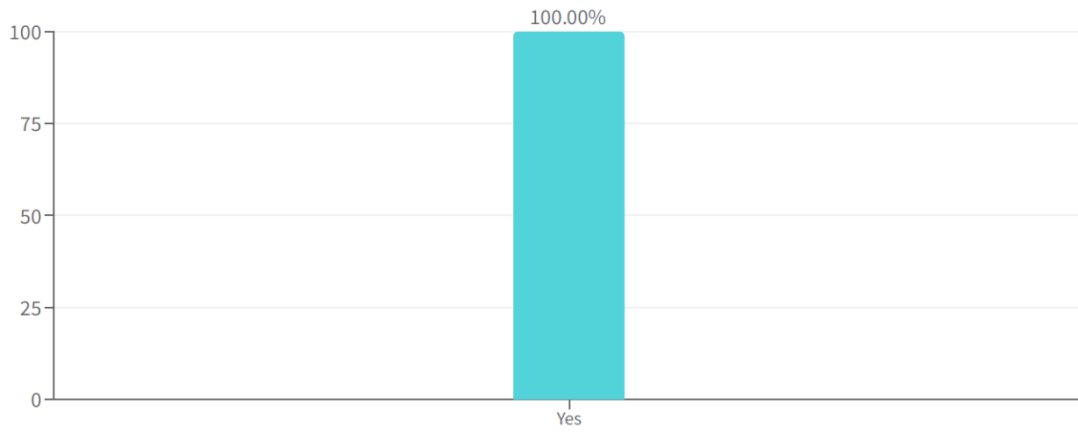
The respondents included youth and adults; males and females; different ethnic and language background; March 15 affected whanau and community members from Christchurch and other regions.

There were approximately 40 Muslims who attended the hui. 31 of them were in at least 6 of the sessions. This survey represents approximately 39% of the Muslim present at the hui.

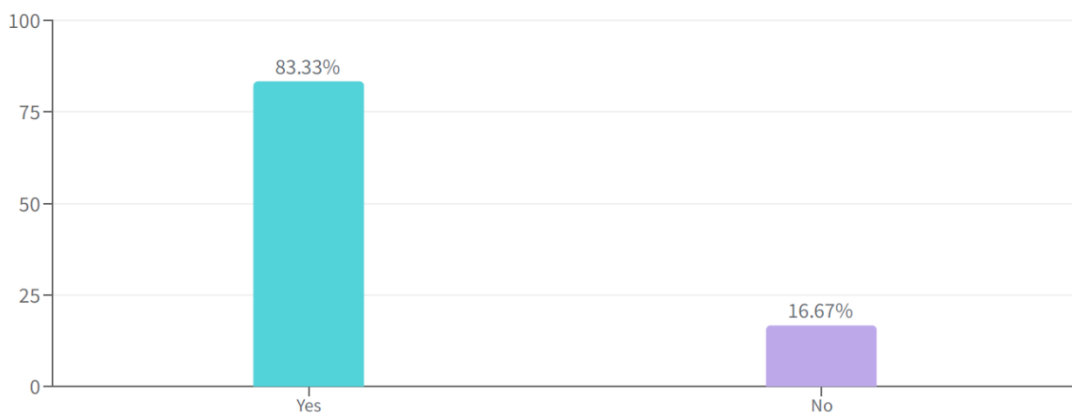
**The following pages contain a summary of the questions posed and their responses.**



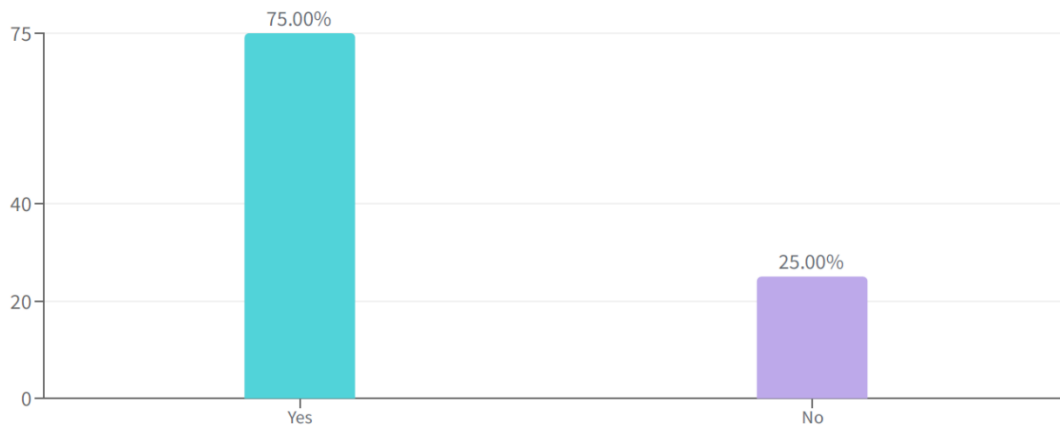
**OVERALL, WAS THE HUI OF VALUE TO YOU?**



**WAS THE PURPOSE OF THE HUI CLEARLY COMMUNICATED TO YOU PRIOR TO YOUR ATTENDANCE?**

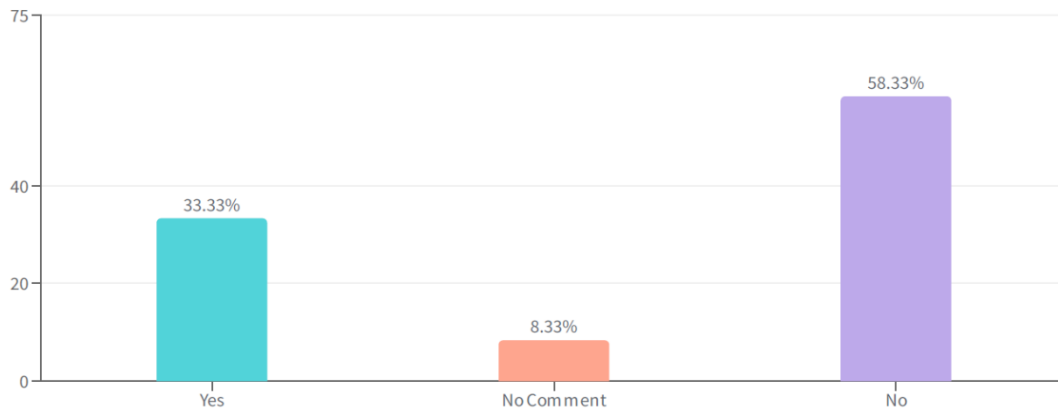


**WERE THE LOGISTICS (ACCOMMODATION, FLIGHTS ETC.) WELL ORGANISED?**

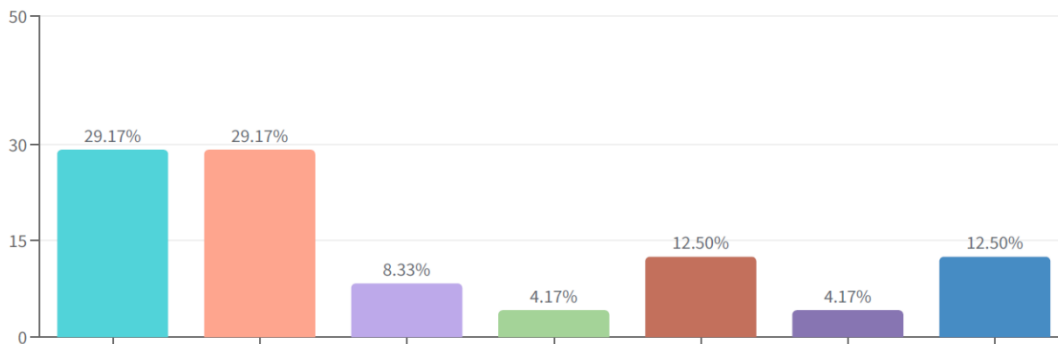




## WAS THE MOBILE APP USEFUL AND NECESSARY?



## WHICH SESSIONS WERE THE MOST VALUABLE? (PLEASE PICK TWO SESSIONS)

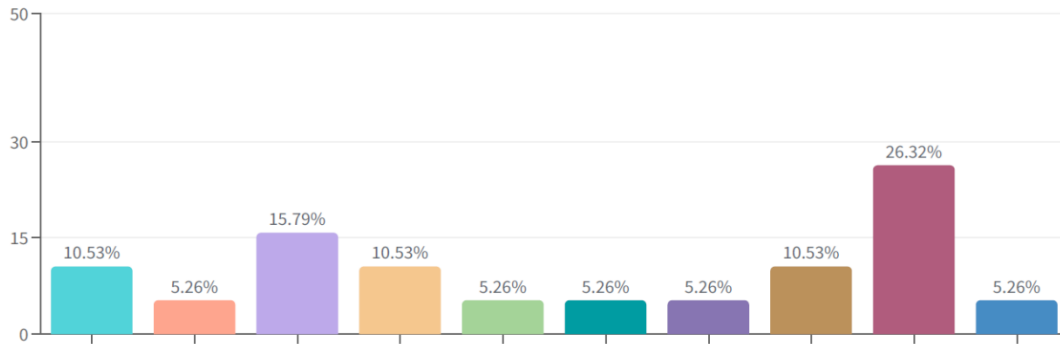


- Day 1 Session 1:** Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism from a Te Tiriti Perspective  
29.17%
- Day 1 Session 2:** Responding to the Changing Threat Environment in Aotearoa New Zealand  
29.17%
- Day 1 Session 3A:** He Aranga Ake  
8.33%
- Day 1 Session 4B:** Psychological Wellbeing and Resilience Workshop  
4.17%
- Day 2 Session 5A:** Making Online Spaces Safe  
12.50%
- Day 2 Session 6A:** Diversity in Democracy  
4.17%
- Day 2 Session 7B:** Countering Violent Extremism: Rights, Responsibilities and Relationships  
12.50%



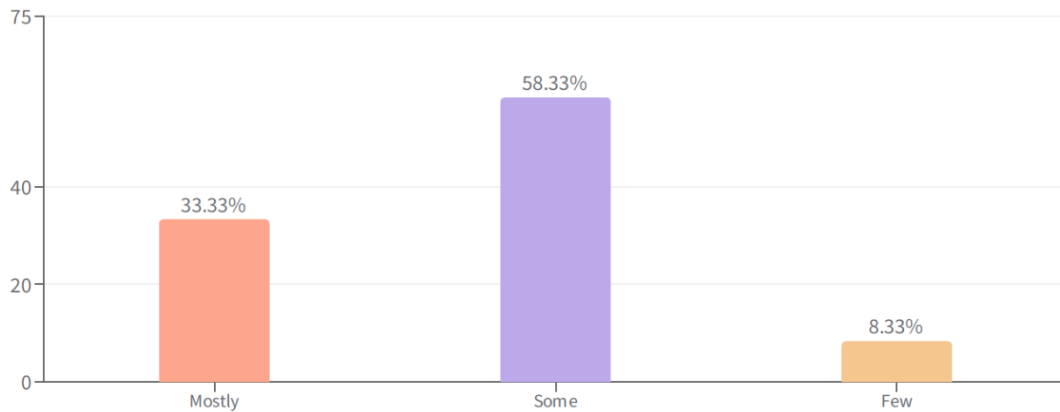


**WHICH SESSIONS WERE THE LEAST VALUABLE? (PLEASE PICK TWO SESSIONS)**

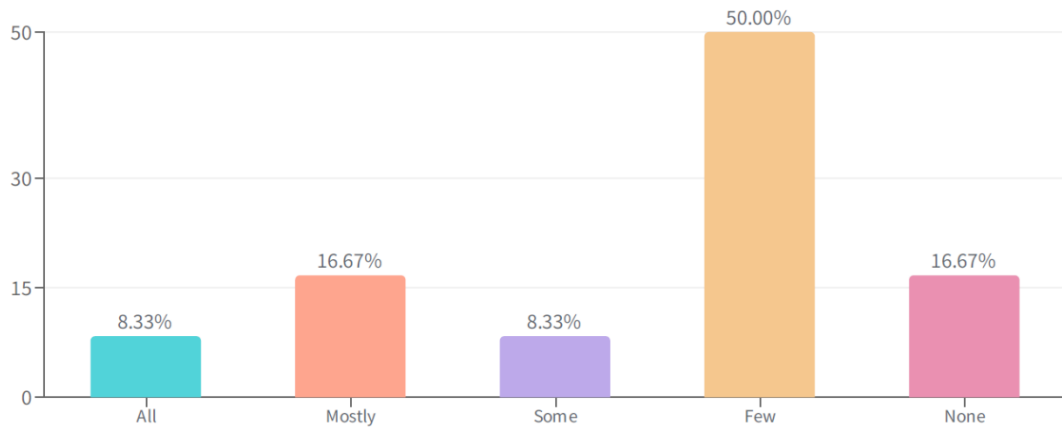


- Day 1 Session 1:** Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism from a Te Tiriti Perspective  
10.53%
- Day 1 Session 2:** Responding to the Changing Threat Environment in Aotearoa New Zealand  
5.26%
- Day 1 Session 3A:** He Aranga Ake  
15.79%
- Day 1 Session 3B:** Feeling Safe in Crowded Places  
10.53%
- Day 1 Session 4B:** Psychological Wellbeing and Resilience Workshop  
5.26%
- Day 2 Session 5B:** Disengagement from Radicalization  
5.26%
- Day 2 Session 6A:** Diversity in Democracy  
5.26%
- Day 2 Session 6B:** Countering Messages of Hate  
10.53%
- Day 2 Session 7A:** Crowded Places - Protecting our Businesses  
26.32%
- Day 2 Session 7B:** Countering Violent Extremism: Rights, Responsibilities and Relationships  
5.26%

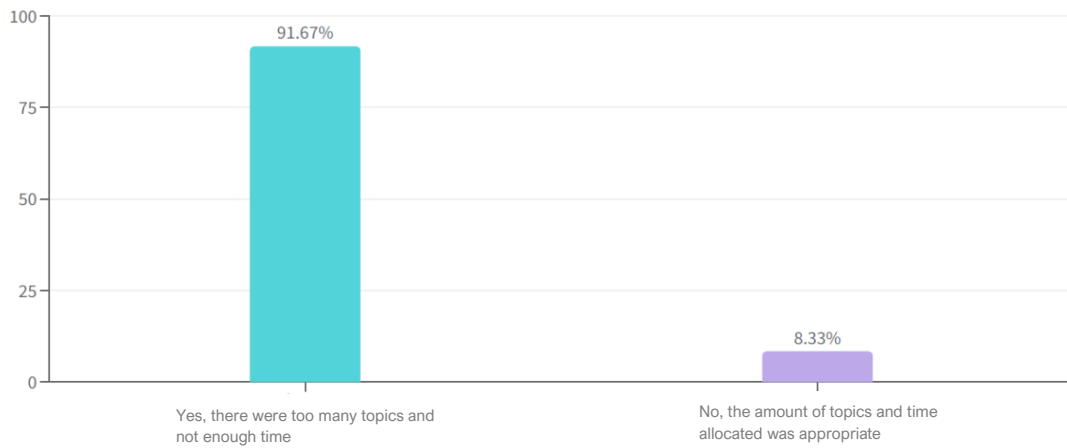
**OVERALL, WERE THE SPEAKERS AUTHORITATIVE ON THE TOPICS?**



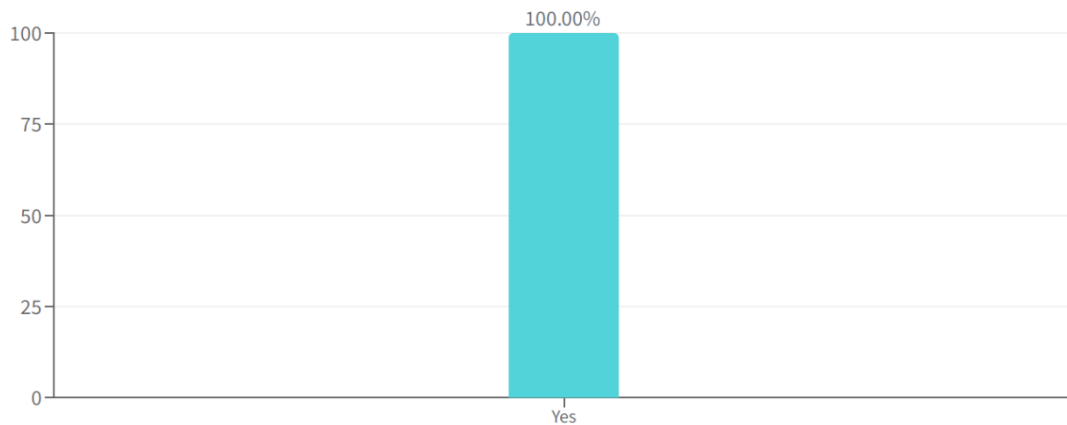
**WAS THERE SUFFICIENT TIME FOR QUESTIONS AND FEEDBACK?**



**WERE THERE TOO MANY TOPICS AND NOT ENOUGH TIME TO DEEPLY DISCUSS THE ISSUES IN-DEPTH?**



**WOULD YOU PREFER LESS TOPICS AND MORE DEPTH OF ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION?**



**PLEASE PROVIDE GENERAL COMMENTS ABOUT THE HUI, INCLUDING SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT**

- ☐ An improvement from last year's but there is still a lot of room for further improvement considering that this is organised by agencies with highly qualified staff.
- ☐ Hui is very good, just need more time for questions and discussions
- ☐ It would be effective to have much more time for discussion and answering the communities questions.
- ☐ Where was the media presence. They should have been in the sessions as speakers.
- ☐ The hui was too presentation-orientated. The time for discussion was far too limited.
- ☐ Informative, platform for networking and establishing new connections
- ☐ More youth
- ☐ This was mostly one way information feeding session. The next Hui should be more interactive so community can critique and Co-design solutions
- ☐ Discussion/questions was initially discouraged unless it was via the app. Other more important topics such as fake news/false narratives etc. is just as important as the reason for the Hui. The scenario discussed was pretty much the same as last year. We could have actually used a real time scenario. A few individuals were able to ask questions as the Hui progressed, but others did not get the chance. I respect Te Tiriti and people with grievances but I think it was pushed a little too hard with some comments I heard. If it is to have a lead, I am interested in how it will solve issues relating to the topic we met for. There is more radicalisation in those pushing false narratives and fake news and this is more of an issues as opposed to hammering the perception of radicalisation among Muslims.
- ☐ I think the hui needed far more interactiveness, as we often felt talked at not talked to. The food also could have done with improvement, when there are so many ethnic peoples represented there ought to have been more spicy food.

**WORD CLOUD SUMMARY**



**WHAT TYPE OF FOLLOW-UP ARE YOU EXPECTING AFTER THIS YEAR'S HUI?**

- A brief newsletter to all those who attended on the workplan for the implementation
- An email update to all participants on progress throughout the year.
- Detailed community engagement plan
- Questions that were posted on the app and were not discussed should be answered
- Nothing..it did not really occur last year I will be surprised if it occurs this year.
- It takes our own organisation to ask for comment, why has this not been done by DPMC?
- Tangible steps emerging from the discussions and more engagement with diverse communities

**WORD CLOUD SUMMARY**



**PLEASE PROVIDE SUGGESTIONS FOR TOPICS WHICH SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE HUI NEXT YEAR**

- Focus on actions - all of community actions for countering racism and terrorism. Countering hate speech.
- There is so much "theory", I would prefer to see more topics on 1 - techniques for inclusion 2 - empirical successful paths for social cohesion (many countries achieved that)
- Youth focused session.
- More on social cohesion and what actually is being done
- How NZ will deal with false narratives, fake news and those groups and individuals pushing this. Personally, I can see civil disturbances in NZ in the future created by these people/groups

**WORD CLOUD SUMMARY**

