

Annette van Lamoen
NCLANA Symposium
June 2013

Adult dyslexia

What we know and what we need to know

Whakatauki

Mā
te huruhuru
te manu
ka rere



Some questions for you

yes

no

1 Are the needs of adult learners with dyslexia being met in NZ tertiary education?

☐☐

2 Are adult literacy educators sufficiently informed about dyslexia?

☐☐

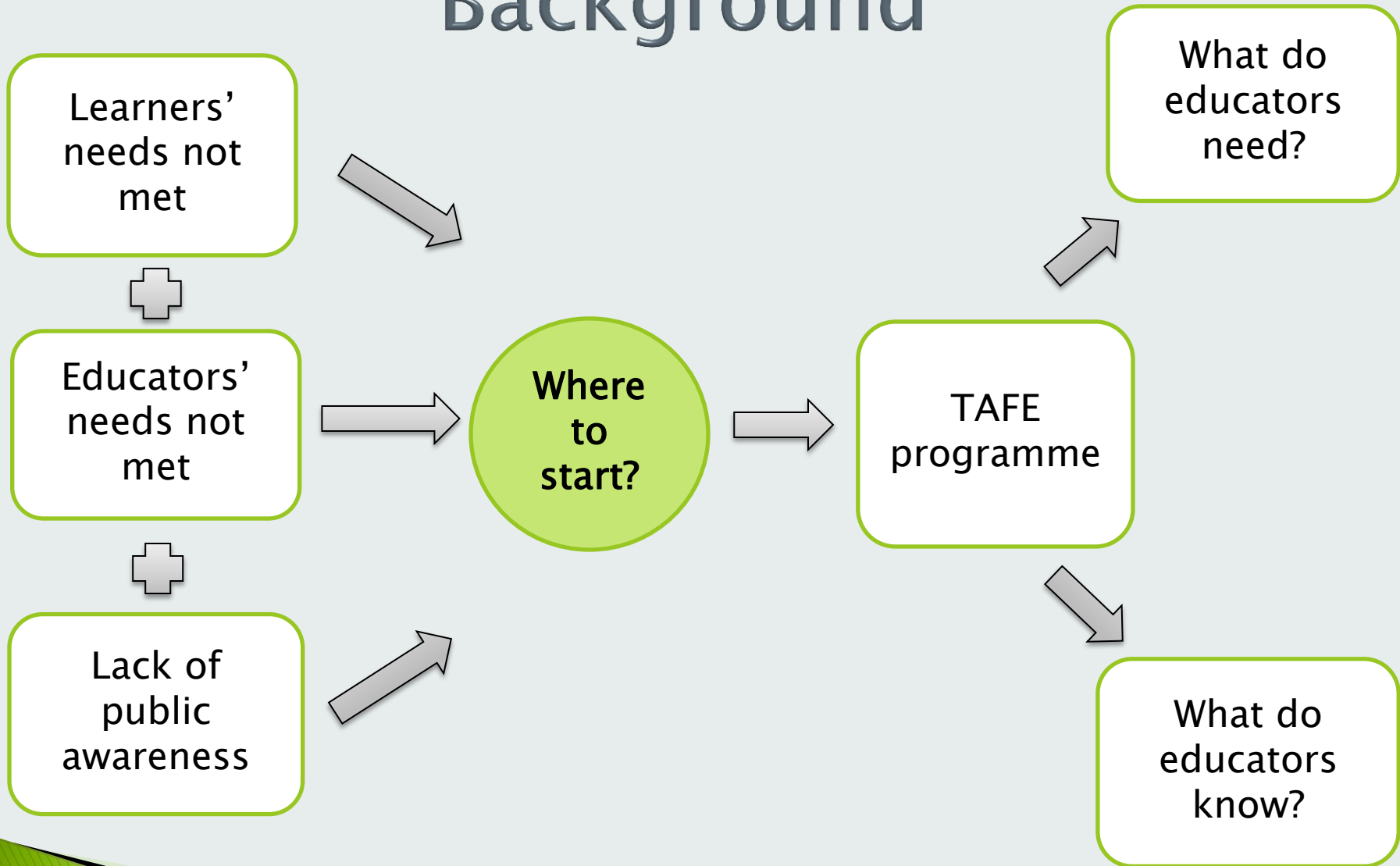
3 Would they like to learn more?

☐☐

4 What can be done to address the situation?



Background



Research questions

Do NZ adult literacy educators have a need to engage in dyslexia training or professional development?

How confident do they feel in meeting the needs of learners with dyslexia?

How much do they think they know?

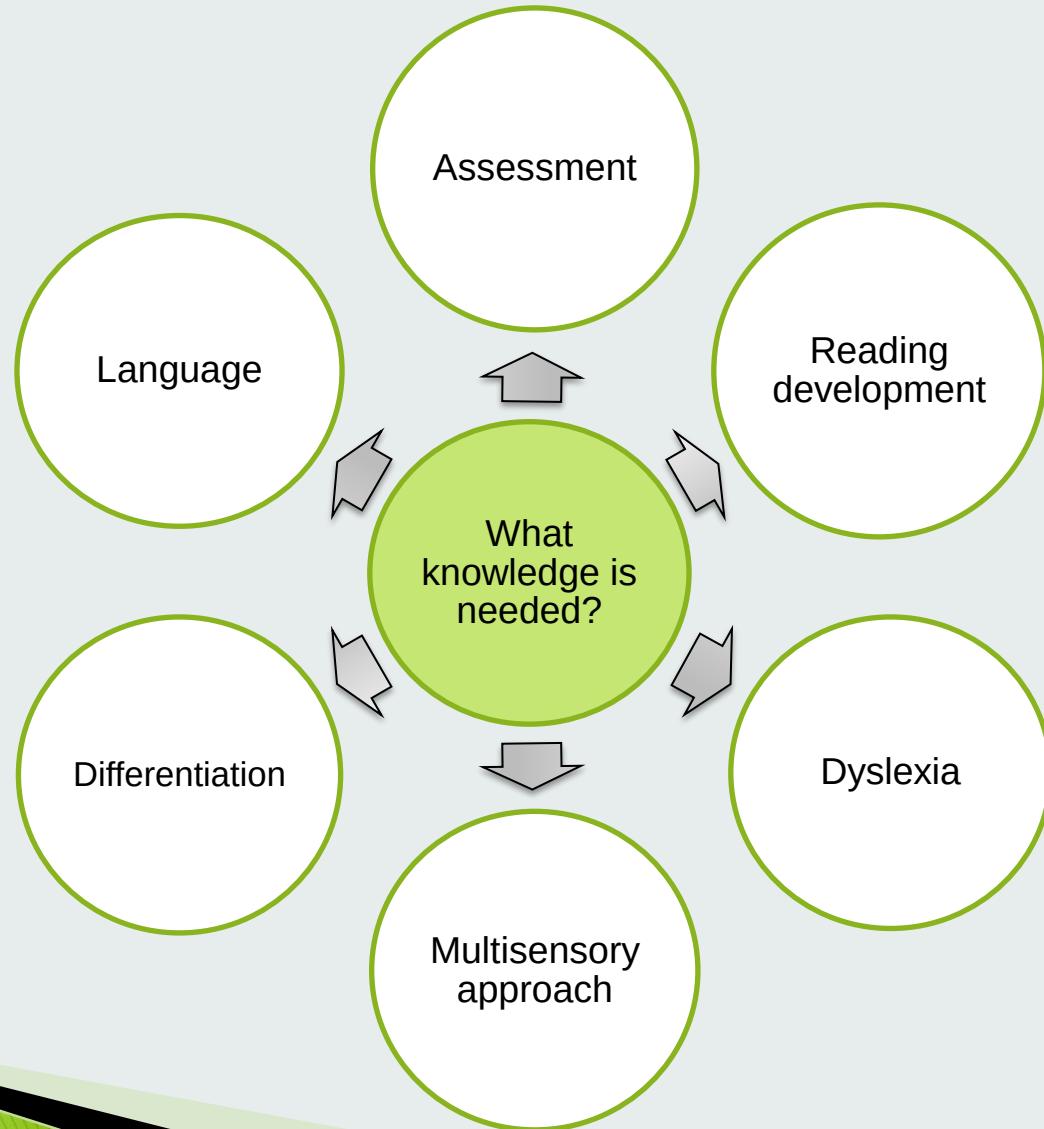
How much do they actually know?

Is PD in dyslexia effective?

Methodology

- ▶ Survey
 - knowledge test
 - questionnaire
- ▶ Interviews

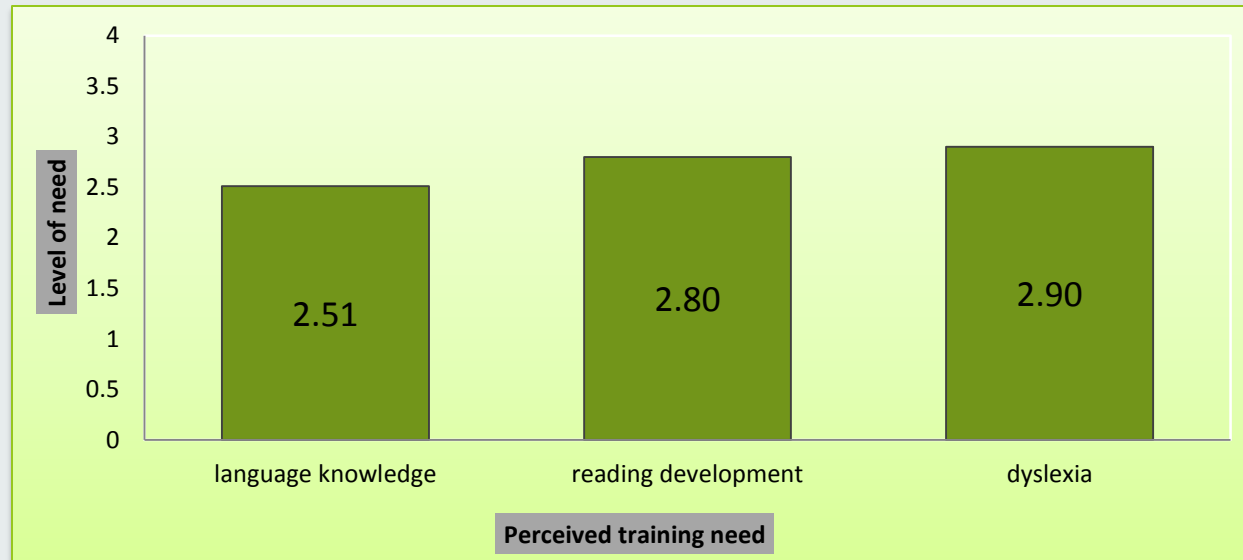
What knowledge is needed?



Study participants

- ▶ Adult literacy educators
 - ▶ Vocational tutors
 - ▶ Literacy tutors
 - ▶ Workplace literacy tutors
- ▶ Survey: 137 participants
- ▶ Interviews: 4 participants

Study finding 1: Need for PD

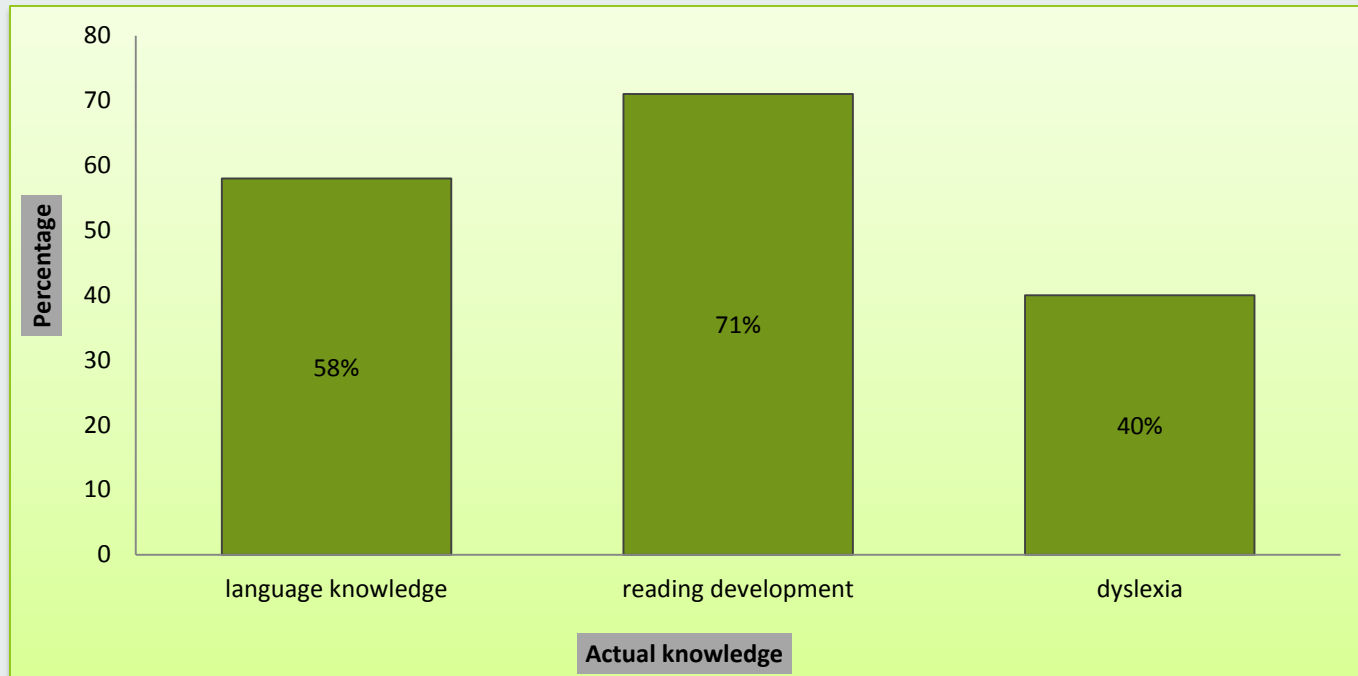


- 89% would engage in PD to improve their capability
- 99% agreed that more dyslexia training should be given to educators

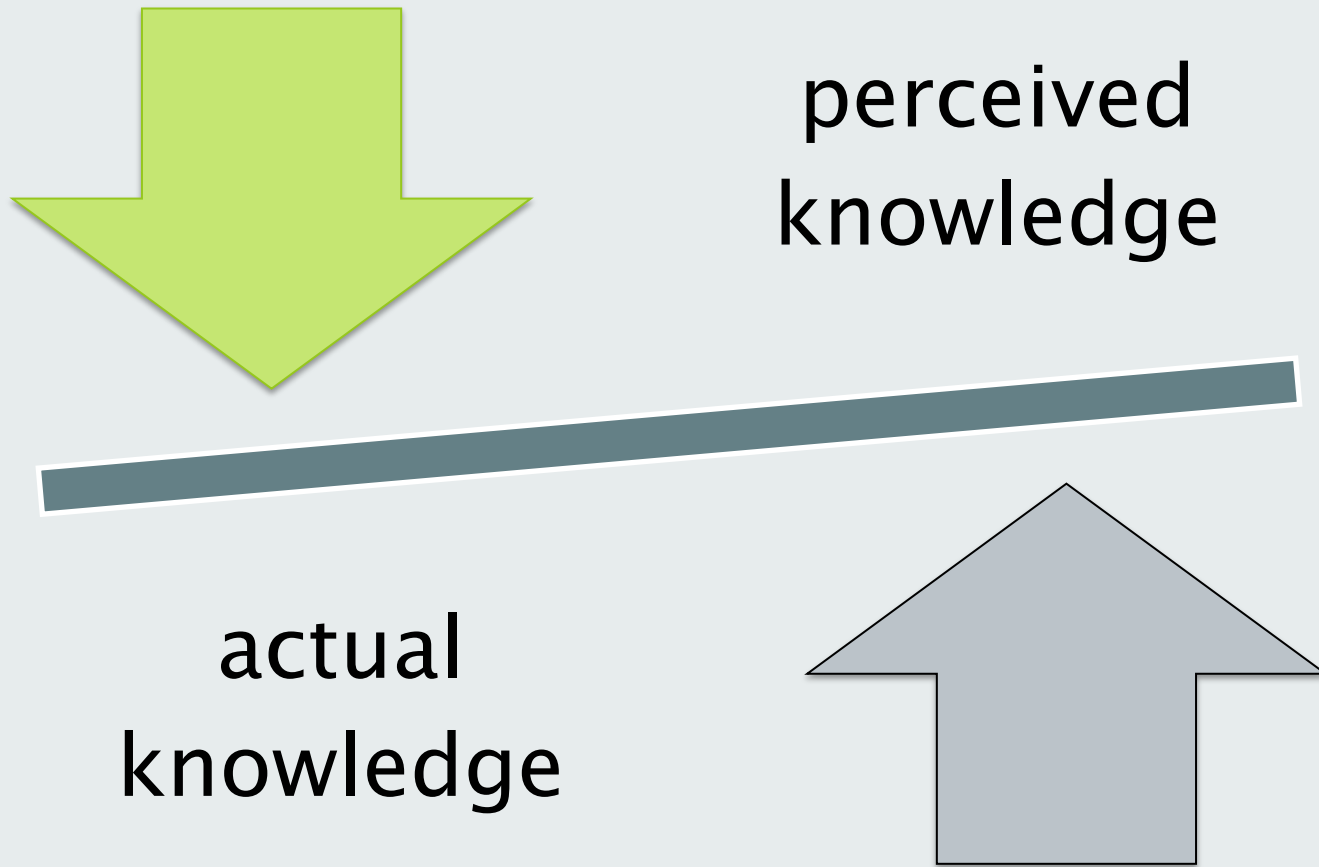
Study finding 2: educator confidence

- ▶ Mean level of confidence: 2.09 out of 4
- ▶ 63.5% reported not feeling confident in meeting the needs of learners with dyslexia

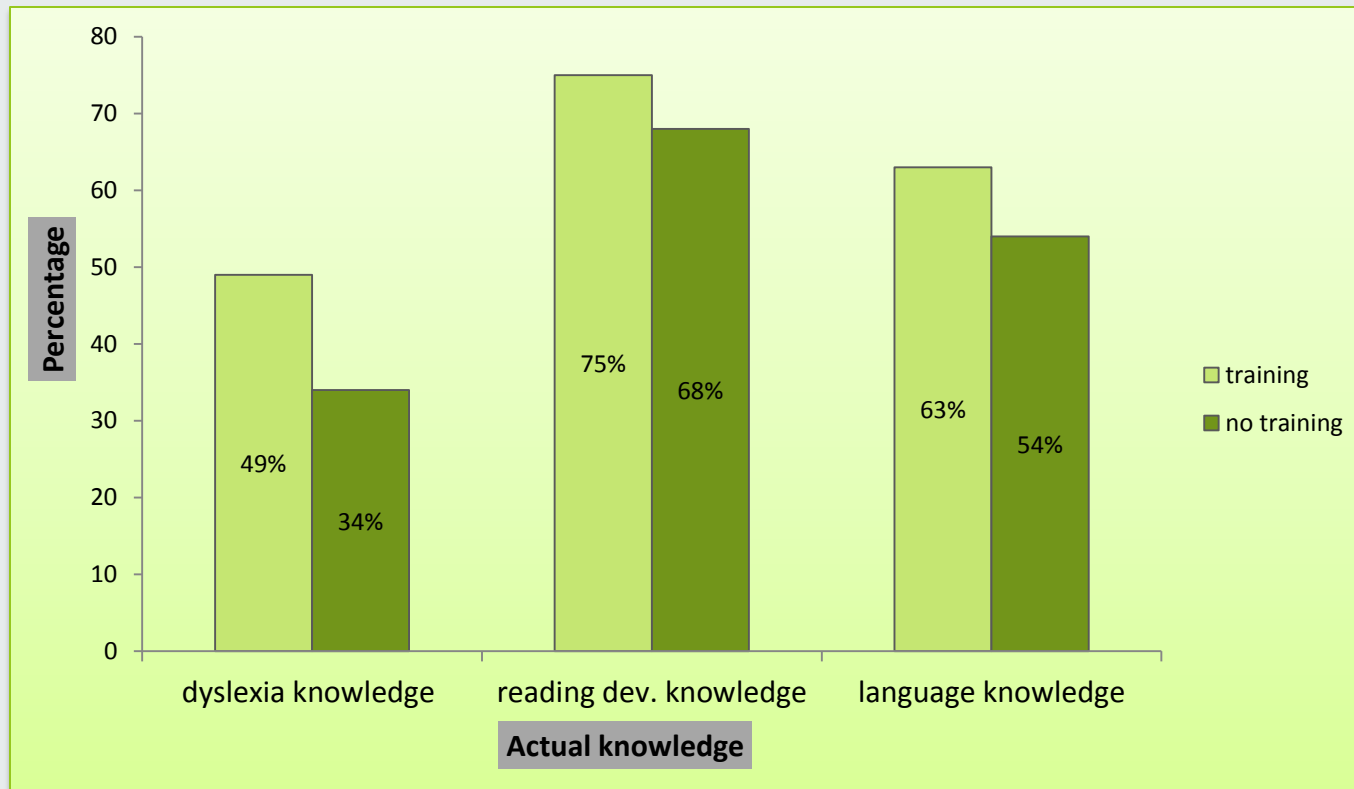
Study finding 3: educator knowledge



Study finding 4: perceived vs actual knowledge



Study finding 5: effectiveness of PD



My vision

Educate learners and
raise public awareness

Specialised programme
similar to TAFE
programme

Teaching package/ Unit
Standards

Dual goal {
Inform adult dyslexics
Raise public awareness

Build educator capability

- ▶ NCALNE
- ▶ NatDipALNE
- ▶ Training programme
- ▶ Dyslexia webpage
- ▶ Resources
- ▶ Dyslexia helpdesk
- ▶ Ongoing, not one-off

Tertiary Education Strategy

7 priorities

Increase the number of young people achieving qualifications at levels 4 and above

Increase the number of Maori students enjoying success at higher qualification levels

Increase the number of Pasifika students achieving at higher qualification levels

Increase the number of young people moving successfully from school into tertiary education

Improve literacy, language and numeracy skills outcomes from levels 1 to 3 study

Improve the educational and financial performance of providers

Strengthen research outcomes

Do we need an 8th priority?

Building educator capability



No adult left behind

People don't grow out of dyslexia

Learner needs are not always met in primary or secondary education

Dyslexia affects people in the workplace

We need a safety net

Feedback

Your feedback would be much appreciated

- ❑ How can PD be best provided?
- ❑ What kind of PD would be useful?
- ❑ Ideas

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Thank you

Kia ora



Kōrero

