



# Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee

## Summary

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### Refocusing the Maternity Action Plan

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| <b>Portfolio</b>                | <b>Associate Health (Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall)</b>   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                  | This paper seeks agreement to refocus the Maternity Action Plan.  |
| <b>Previous Decisions</b>       | <p>In April 2020, SWC noted the contents of the submission <i>Maternity System Transformation</i> and invited the Associate Minister of Health to submit an updated paper, revised in light of the findings of the upcoming Health and Disability System Review report [SWC-20-MIN-0020];</p> <p>In May 2020, as part of Budget 2020 decisions, Cabinet agreed to increase the Maternity Action Plan – Tagged Contingency from \$120 million to \$180 million over four years [CAB-21-MIN-0234].</p>  |
| <b>Proposal</b>                 | <p>The Maternity Action Plan was developed following consultation in 2018. In its current form the Maternity Action Plan will not achieve equitable health outcomes for whānau Māori, Pacific peoples and other disadvantaged populations (inequities outlined at <b>Table 1, page 3</b> of paper).</p> <p>Agreement is sought to refocus the Maternity Action Plan to have a greater equity focus on the first thousand days of a child's life and better alignment with the Well Child Tamariki Ora transformation approach. The new Maternity Action Plan will align with the strategic directions set out in Whakamaui – Maori Health Action Plan 2020-25 and Ola Manuia – Pacific Health and Wellbeing Plan 2020-25, as outlined in <b>Appendix One</b>. The Perinatal and Maternal Mortality Review Committee recommendations (<b>Appendix Two</b>) will continue to be progressed alongside the refocus.</p> |
| <b>Impact Analysis</b>          | Not required.   |
| <b>Financial Implications</b>   | None from this paper.   |
| <b>Legislative Implications</b> | None from this paper.   |
| <b>Timing Matters</b>           | None.   |
| <b>Communications</b>           | The Minister intends to announce the refocused Maternity Action Plan at an upcoming stakeholder event.  |

**Consultation** Paper prepared by Ministry of Health (Health). Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (Prime Minister), Treasury (Finance) and TPK, MfW and MPP were consulted.

The Minister indicates that SWC Ministers were consulted.

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**The Associate Minister of Health (Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall) recommends that the Committee:**

- 1 note that:
  - 1.1 in April 2020, SWC noted the contents of the submission *Maternity System Transformation* and invited the Associate Minister of Health to submit an updated paper, revised in light of the findings of the upcoming Health and Disability System Review report [SWC-20-MIN-0020];
  - 1.2 in May 2020, as part of Budget 2020 decisions, Cabinet agreed to increase the Maternity Action Plan – Tagged Contingency from \$120 million to \$180 million over four years [CAB-21-MIN-0234];
- 2 note that the Health and Disability System Review, Wai 2575, Whakamaui – Māori Health Action Plan 2020-2025 and Ola Manuia – Pacific Health and Wellbeing Action Plan 2020-2025 have driven significant shifts in both the sector and the Ministry’s landscape in the last 12 months;
- 3 agree to refocusing the Maternity Action Plan using a Te Tiriti based approach alongside the transformation of Well Child Tamariki Ora, in recognition of and to provide a renewed equity focus on the first thousand days of a child’s life;
- 4 note that the anticipated outcomes of current and future work under the Maternity Action Plan framework include:
  - 4.1 improved maternal and infant outcomes for Māori, Pacific, Indian families, mothers under the age of 20 years old, and those living in areas of high deprivation;
  - 4.2 increased cultural safety of maternity care;
  - 4.3 stabilisation and growth of the midwifery workforce;
  - 4.4 improved consumers’ experiences of maternity services;
  - 4.5 increased sector readiness for transformative change to the maternity and wider health system under the Health and Disability System Reforms.

Rachel Clarke  
Committee Secretary

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