

# Briefing

## Government Policy Statement on Health: Update on measures

**Date due to MO:** 6 June 2024

**Action required by:** 13 June 2024

**Security level:**

**Health Report number:** H2024042476

**To:** Hon Dr Shane Reti, Minister of Health

**Copy to:** Hon Matt Doocoy, Minister for Mental Health

**Consulted:** Health New Zealand:  Māori Health Authority:

### Contact for telephone discussion

Name	Position	Telephone
<b>Caleb Johnstone</b>	Group Manager Strategy, Strategy, Policy and Legislation	s 9(2)(a)
<b>Simon Medcalf</b>	Deputy Director-General, Regulation and Monitoring	s 9(2)(a)

### Minister's office to complete:

- Approved
  Decline
  Noted
- Needs change
  Seen
  Overtaken by events
- See Minister's Notes
  Withdrawn

Comment:

# Government Policy Statement on Health: Update on measures

**Security level:**

**Date:** 6 June 2024

**To:** Hon Dr Shane Reti, Minister of Health

**Copy to:** Hon Matt Doocey, Minister for Mental Health

## Purpose of report

1. This briefing provides an overview of proposed changes to the measures of the Government Policy Statement 2024–2027 (GPS) prior to publication in June 2024.
2. It seeks your agreement to the proposed changes as outlined in **Appendices one and two**.

## Summary

3. The first Government Policy Statement on Health (GPS) has been endorsed by Cabinet [CAB-24-MIN-0179 refers]. Near final draft measures and the Strategic Monitoring Framework were included as a technical appendix of the GPS endorsed by Cabinet.
4. Cabinet has authorised you, as the Minister of Health, to approve final technical appendices, including measures. We have undertaken targeted engagement with Health New Zealand – Te Whatu Ora (Health NZ) and the Treasury to refine the GPS measures and proposed changes are attached as **Appendix 1**.
5. Many of the proposed amendments are to improve clarity and amend technical detail. We propose additional detail to clarify expectations about the financial sustainability and infrastructure measures, including the addition of two infrastructure measures to ensure:
  - projects are delivered on time and within budget
  - all investments submitted for Ministerial or Cabinet approval comply with capital settings.
6. We also propose one new workforce experience measure to demonstrate an increase in health workforce satisfaction and sentiment as reported through Health NZ staff survey.
7. You recently agreed annual performance improvement expectations for health targets, and these have been added to the GPS measures, attached to this briefing as **Appendix 2**.
8. Annual performance improvement expectations for the mental health and addiction health system targets have been agreed by the Minister for Mental Health and these have also been added to the GPS measures, attached to this briefing as **Appendix 2**.
9. If agreed, both tables of measures in Appendix 1 and 2 will be included as a technical appendix to the GPS when published later this month.

## Recommendations

We recommend you:

- a) **Note** that the first Government Policy Statement on Health (GPS) has been endorsed by Cabinet [CAB-24-MIN-0179 refers]
- b) **Note** near final draft measures and the Strategic Monitoring Framework were included as a technical appendix of the GPS that has been endorsed by Cabinet
- c) **Note** Cabinet has authorised you, as the Minister of Health, to approve final technical appendices, including measures
- d) **Note** that we have undertaken targeted engagement with Health New Zealand – Te Whatu Ora and the Treasury to refine the GPS measures and proposed changes are attached as **Appendix 1**
- e) **Note** that we propose two new infrastructure measures to ensure:
  - infrastructure projects are delivered on time and within budget
  - all investments submitted for Ministerial or Cabinet approval comply with capital settings.
- f) **Note** that we propose one new workforce experience measure to demonstrate an increase in health workforce satisfaction and sentiment as reported through Health NZ staff survey.
- g) **Note** we propose adding a short narrative to the measures section in the GPS to promote consistency of expectations including that:
  - where relevant, GPS measures will build on existing data definitions and performance established through the interim GPS
  - all measures include a focus on improving outcomes for populations with the highest needs, including an expectation that unfair differences in health needs and outcomes are addressed, consistent with the requirements in the Pae Ora Act
  - measures will be disaggregated by demographic characteristics including age, ethnicity, gender, and geographic location and rurality as appropriate, and as data sources allow. We also aim for all relevant measures to be disaggregated for a wider range of appropriate groups, including disability over time
  - additional technical detail will be available on the Ministry of Health's website.

h) **Note** that you recently agreed annual performance improvement expectations for health targets, and these have been added to the GPS measures, attached to this briefing as Appendix 2

i) **Note** that annual performance improvement expectations for the mental health and addiction health system targets have been agreed by the Minister for Mental Health and these have been added to the GPS measures, attached to this briefing as Appendix 2

j) **Agree**

**EITHER** to approve amendments to the GPS measures as set out in Appendix 1 and 2

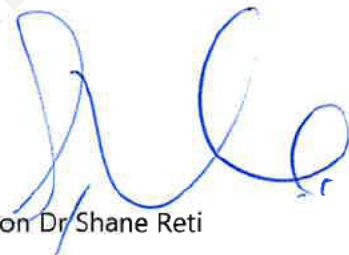
Yes/No

**OR** to provide feedback on amendments to the GPS measures.

Yes/No



Dr Diana Sarfati  
**Director-General of Health**  
**Te Tumu Whakarae mō te Hauora**  
Date: 05/06/2024



Hon Dr Shane Reti

**Minister of Health**

Date: 9/6/2024

# Government Policy Statement on Health: Update on measures

## Background

1. The first Government Policy Statement on Health (GPS) has been endorsed by Cabinet [CAB-24-MIN-0179 refers]. The GPS must, under statute, include a framework for regular monitoring of progress and reporting requirements.
2. Near final draft measures and the Strategic Monitoring Framework for health were included as a technical appendix of the GPS that has been endorsed by Cabinet. Proposed measures are split across the three levels of the strategic monitoring framework<sup>1</sup> and directly relate to the priorities identified in the Government Policy Statement (GPS):
  - 47 proposed measures relate to the five GPS priorities (including the 10 health target and mental health and addiction (MH&A) targets)
  - 11 proposed measures relate to financial sustainability.
3. An additional 19 population-level measures are proposed to reflect annual trends in non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and modifiable risk factors.
4. While measures are currently linked to the priority areas above, many of the measures cover multiple areas. Approximately three quarters of the proposed measures align with two or more of the priority areas. Measures include a mix of qualitative (including narrative reporting and milestone deliverables) and quantitative measures.

## Proposed amendments to the GPS measures

5. Cabinet has authorised you, as the Minister of Health, to approve final technical appendices, including measures.
6. We have undertaken targeted engagement with Health New Zealand – Te Whatu Ora and the Treasury to refine the GPS measures and proposed changes are attached as **Appendix 1**. Many of the proposed amendments are to improve clarity and amend technical detail.
7. We propose including additional detail to clarify expectations about the financial sustainability and infrastructure measures. This includes the addition of two infrastructure measures to ensure:
  - a. projects are delivered on time and within budget
  - b. all investments submitted for Ministerial or Cabinet approval comply with capital settings.
8. We also propose an additional workforce experience measure to demonstrate an:
  - a. increase in health workforce satisfaction and sentiment as reported through Health NZ staff survey. This includes increased participation and improvement in overall results.

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<sup>1</sup> The three levels of the strategic monitoring framework are: outcomes, activities and inputs and enablers.

### *Health Targets and Mental Health and Addiction Targets*

9. Cabinet has noted that you will include annual performance improvement expectations for each of the Government's health targets and the MH&A targets in the final GPS.
10. You recently agreed annual expectations for health targets [H2024038842 refers] and these have been added to the GPS measures (attached as Appendix 2). We understand annual expectations for the two planned care targets are still awaiting confirmation, to be finalised by 7 June 2024.
11. The Minister for Mental Health took a paper to the Social Outcomes Committee (SOU) on 29 May to present his mental health portfolio priorities and high-level work programme. SOU agreed to the recommendations in the paper, including noting the five MH&A targets for Health New Zealand. The MH&A targets are included in the GPS alongside other MH&A measures.
12. Annual performance improvement expectations for the MH&A targets have also been included in the GPS measures (attached as Appendix 2) following agreement by the Minister for Mental Health [HR2024041343 refers].
13. The SOU discussion also resulted in the addition of a fourth MH&A priority in relation to effectiveness, alongside the existing three MH&A priorities of access, workforce, and prevention and early intervention. We will update references to the MH&A priorities in the GPS to reflect the Minister for Mental Health's discussion with SOU and provide an updated version to you shortly.

### *Promoting consistent expectations across measures*

14. To promote consistency of expectations across the suite of measures, we propose adding a short narrative to the measures section in the GPS to note that:
  - where relevant, GPS measures will build on existing data definitions and performance established through the iGPS.
  - all measures include a focus on improving outcomes for populations with the highest needs, including an expectation that unfair differences in health needs and outcomes are addressed, consistent with the requirements in the Pae Ora Act.
  - measures will be disaggregated by demographic characteristics including age, ethnicity, gender, and geographic location and rurality as appropriate, and as data sources allow. We also aim for all relevant measures to be disaggregated for a wider range of appropriate groups, including disability over time.
  - additional technical detail will be available on the Ministry of Health's website.

### **Next steps**

15. Your feedback is sought on the proposed changes to the GPS measures, along with any other comments or direction you may have. Once we receive your feedback on the GPS measures, we will update the GPS and provide you with a final version of the GPS for publication by June 2024.

**ENDS.**

## Minister's Notes

*Note: Appendix 1 and 2 can be found with the published Government Policy Statement on Health here: <https://www.health.govt.nz/publication/government-policy-statement-health-2024-2027>*

PROACTIVELY RELEASED