

Aide-Mémoire

Meeting with the New Zealand Hearing Industry Association

Date due to MO:	18 July 2024	Action required by:	N/A
Security level:	IN CONFIDENCE	Health Report number:	H2024043283
To:	Hon Dr Shane Reti, Minister of Health		
Consulted:	Health New Zealand: <input type="checkbox"/>		

Contact for telephone discussion

Name	Position	Telephone
Robyn Shearer	Deputy Director-General, Clinical, Community and Mental Health - Te Pou Whakakaha	s 9(2)(a)
Martin Chadwick	Chief Allied Health Professions Officer, Clinical, Community and Mental Health - Te Pou Whakakaha	s 9(2)(a)

Aide-Mémoire

Meeting with the New Zealand Hearing Industry Association

Date due: 18 July 2024

To: Hon Dr Shane Reti, Minister of Health

Security level: IN CONFIDENCE **Health Report number:** H2024043283

Details of meeting: Wednesday 24 July, 3.30pm to 4.00pm
6.6, Executive Wing, Parliament

Attendees: Barney Irvine, Chief Executive Officer, New Zealand Hearing Industry Association

Official Representatives: Dr Martin Chadwick, Chief Allied Health Professions Officer at the Ministry of Health will attend this meeting via a Teams link.

Purpose of meeting/proposal: The New Zealand Hearing Industry Association has requested to meet with you to discuss policy interventions to ease supply and demand pressures and increase access to hearing health services.

Comment: This aide-mémoire discloses all relevant information.

Context

1. New Zealand Hearing Industry Association (NZHIA) represents private hearing health providers in New Zealand. NZHIA members are manufacturers, wholesalers, and retailers, and include the following brands:
 - a. Bay Audiology
 - b. Bloom Hearing Specialists New Zealand
 - c. Dilworth Hearing
 - d. GN Hearing
 - e. Hearing Care Audika NZ
 - f. Sonova New Zealand
 - g. Triton Hearing.
2. With a combined total of close to 250 clinics across New Zealand, NZHIA members provide testing, assessment and fitting of over 80% of the hearing devices used here.

3. NZHIA works to inform policy decisions, grow awareness of the importance of hearing health, and provide a clear and coherent industry voice on hearing health matters. Their mission is to see all New Zealanders with hearing loss live life to the fullest.
4. NZHIA members provide consumers with a range of options when it comes to providers and to the mix of services and devices they offer. Devices are available from under \$500 at the low end of the market to around \$9000 at the top end.
5. NZHIA members also support the development of hearing health in New Zealand by providing free screening tests (upwards of 100,000 per year), offering programmes to deliver free diagnostic testing and hearing health services to many who cannot afford them, and partnering with iwi and other groups to deliver services to hard-to-reach communities.
6. Please refer to Appendix 1 for information on NZHIA meeting attendees.

Talking points and potential topics of conversation

7. Talking points and potential topics of conversation likely to be raised by attendees is attached as Appendix 2.



Robyn Shearer
Deputy Director-General
Clinical, Community and Mental Health |
Te Pou Whakakaha
Date: 16 July 2024

Appendix 1 - Attendees

New Zealand Hearing Industry Association (NZHIA)

Barney Irvine, CEO

Barney is a senior public policy and advocacy professional whose career spans the public and private sectors. He has worked in New Zealand and abroad. Over the past 15 years, Barney has advised and represented numerous industry associations, in fields including transport, waste and recycling, construction and medical technology.



Appendix 2 - Talking points and potential topics of conversation

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PROACTIVELY RELEASED

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