

Aide-Mémoire

DHL Supply Chain - Te Kapua Grand Opening

Date due to MO: 27 October 2025 **Date of Event:** 31 October 2025

Security level: IN CONFIDENCE **Reference:** H2025073753

To: Hon Simeon Brown, Minister of Health

Consulted: Health New Zealand: ☐

Proactive release: This **title** is proposed by the Ministry of Health for proactive release: ☒

Contact for telephone discussion

Name	Position	Telephone
Ruth Cook	Manager Engagement, Corporate Services	s 9(2)(a)

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About the Event

Purpose of Event:	You have been invited to speak at the grand opening of the DHL Supply Chain Te Kapua Life Sciences and Healthcare Facility.		
Details of Event:	Date:	31 October 2025	
	Time:	8.55am - 10.45am	
	Venue:	DHL Supply Chain Te Kapua 15 Te Kapua Drive Māngere, Auckland	
Attendees	Paula Bennett (Pharmac Board Chair), Natalie McMurtry (Pharmac CEO), healthcare customers and suppliers, DHL supply chain leaders and staff. Between 80 and 100 guests are expected.		
Organisation	DHL Supply Chain is an international contract logistics provider. Its New Zealand operations employs 650 staff and delivers supply chain services across 11 facilities to customers from the FMCG, technology, engineering and manufacturing sectors, as well as life sciences and healthcare.		
Ministry representatives	Not currently attending – officials can attend at your request.		
Other information	You have been invited to cut the ribbon and unveil the plaque that will go on the building.		
Media	Media have been invited, including NZME, NZ Herald, Business Desk, NBR, Newsroom, Stuff, and supply chain and logistics trade publications.		

Background and context

1. DHL is active in the medicine logistics supply chain, providing third party logistics services. Medicines are received, stored and distributed to pharmaceutical wholesalers, pharmacies and other healthcare providers.
2. The new Te Kapua facility extends DHL's Supply Chain capacity, reducing the impacts of supply chain and port disruptions. The facility is certified to store both food and pharmaceutical products.
3. DHL holds several licences under the Medicines Act 1981 and the Misuse of Drugs Act 1975. DHL has a mix of licences including licences relating to packing medicines, wholesaling medicines and dealing in controlled drugs that are medicines.
4. The Te Kapua site currently holds a Licence to Sell Medicines by Wholesale, a Licence to Pack Medicines and a Licence to Deal in Controlled Drugs.

Practical arrangements

5. An approximate run sheet is attached as **Appendix One**. A final run sheet will be provided to the Minister's Office by the DHL event organiser.
6. You will be met by Matt Casbolt (Managing Director DHL Supply Chain NZ) and Jordan Smith (DHL Event Organiser). Jordan's mobile number is s 9(2)(a) should you need to contact her.
7. You are the opening speaker and will be introduced by Matt Casbolt. Suggested talking points are attached as **Appendix Two**.
8. Biographies of key attendees are attached as **Appendix Three**.

Darin To'o
Senior Advisor Engagement
Corporate Services

Appendix One: Draft run-sheet. A final run-sheet will be provided by DHL before the event.

Time	Details	Minister's Office notes
0845	Guests arrive Coffee and tea available on arrival	
0855	Minister Brown to arrive	
0900	Guests ushered to event location	
0910	Speeches begin	
0916	Minister Brown to speak	
0925	Javier Bilbao to speak	
0930	Paula Bennett to speak	
0945	Guests move to ribbon cutting location	
0955	Ribbon cutting and plaque unveiling	
1000	Ministers site tour begins	
1025	Minister's tour ends Opportunity for media questions	
1035	VIPs to rejoin guests – morning tea	
1040	Minister to depart	
11.30	All guests to depart - event ends	

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Appendix Three: Key attendee biographies

Paula Bennett, Chair of Pharmac



As well as being the Pharmac Board Chair, Paula is the Strategic Advisory Director at Bayleys Real Estate and board member of New Zealand Green Building Council.

Previously Paula was a Member of Parliament for 15 years and a Cabinet Minister for nine years with a broad range of portfolios and served as Deputy Prime Minister.

She is a motivational speaker and has a podcast where she seeks advice on interesting topics. Paula loves charity work, reading, and is happiest on, in, or under the water.

Paula joined the Pharmac Board in May 2024.

Natalie McMurtry, Pharmac Chief Executive



Natalie McMurtry joined Pharmac as Chief Executive in September 2025. She is an experienced health care leader with more than 25 years' experience as a frontline clinician and senior executive in Canada.

Natalie began her career as a paediatric critical care pharmacist at the Stollery Children's Hospital in Edmonton before moving into senior leadership roles across the health system. She held executive positions with Alberta Health Services, including Vice President of Provincial Clinical Excellence, and served as Assistant Deputy Minister for Pharmaceutical and Supplementary Health Benefits with the Alberta Government. Most recently, she served as Chief Transition Officer for Alberta's new Acute Care Agency.

Natalie is a licensed pharmacist with degrees in pharmacy and business administration.

Javier Bilbao, CEO Asia Pacific, DHL Supply Chain



Based in Singapore, Javier Bilbao is responsible for a team of over 52,000 employees across 12 countries, delivering best-in-class supply chain solutions to customers and partners across a multitude of industry sectors. He previously served as the chief executive of Latin America operations. Bilbao has been with the DHL Group since 2000 and has held various management positions, and is focused on the company's digitalisation, customer service, and its position as a great workplace in the Asia Pacific region.

Steve Thompsett, CEO ANZ and Life Sciences & Healthcare APAC, DHL Supply Chain



Steve Thompsett, based in Australia, is currently a Chief Executive Officer Australia and New Zealand, Life Sciences and Healthcare APAC at DHL Supply Chain. Steve Thompsett brings experience from previous roles at DHL Supply Chain. Thompsett spent close to 25 years in Deutsche Post DHL (DPDHL) Group and has a proven track record in a variety of turnkey roles in the UK and Asia Pacific. He stepped into his current position as CCO, DSC APAC, and member of the DSC APAC Management Board in 2016 and has been instrumental in driving growth in the region.

Matt Casbolt, Managing Director New Zealand, DHL Supply Chain



Matt Casbolt is a seasoned leader in the logistics and supply chain sector, currently serving as the Managing Director at DHL Supply Chain New Zealand. With over two decades of experience, Matt

has honed his expertise in turn-around management, supply chain optimisation, and strategic planning, making him a pivotal figure in driving operational excellence within the organisation. Under his stewardship, DHL Supply Chain NZ has embarked on several key projects aimed at enhancing efficiency and sustainability, including the implementation of advanced warehouse management systems and innovative reverse logistics solutions.

Mark Foy, Managing Director New Zealand & Pacific Islands, DHL Express



Mark Foy is the Managing Director of NZ and Pacific Islands at DHL International. With a Master of Business Administration (MBA), Foy is responsible for overseeing the operations and strategic direction of the company's New Zealand and Pacific Island divisions.

Zane Morton, Managing Director New Zealand & Fiji, DHL Global Forwarding



Zane Morton is the Managing Director at DHL International, overseeing operations in New Zealand and Fiji. He brings extensive experience in sales, marketing, and product management within the freight and logistics services sector.

His career reflects a strong focus on leadership and management within the logistics sector. Prior to his current role, Zane served as Head of Sales, NZ and Customer Service at DHL International.