

Office of Hon Judith Collins KC

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06 MAY 2025

Hon Simeon Brown
Minister of Health

Dear Simeon,

Health New Zealand – Te Whatu Ora Board fee exception

Thank you for your letter seeking my support at Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee to pay a fee exception to the Board of Health New Zealand (Health NZ) and increase the day cap and contingency days for a period of 18 months.

As mentioned in your letter, previous arrangements agreed for the day caps and contingency were not sufficient for the workload of the commissioners. Raising these for a period of 18 months whilst the Health NZ Board are appointed, and immediate challenges are addressed, is an acceptable approach.

I also acknowledge the high level of skill and experience required for the upcoming appointments of the Chair, Deputy Chair and members on the Health NZ Board, and the fee rate and settings that are to attract and retain the talent required.

Given the need to attract and retain talent and the complexity of the issues for the Health NZ Board, I will support your proposal for an exception to the daily fee rate and the increase in day caps and contingency days, for a period of 18 months, when it is considered at the Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee. I would suggest when seeking any future standing fee exception for the Health NZ Board, robust evidence of the hours spent on Board business should be provided to support the request at Cabinet.

Yours sincerely,



Hon Judith Collins KC
Minister for the Public Service