

Ref: H201902932

Dear [REDACTED]

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request for information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) on 7 May 2019 for:

"Can you please give me update on the 4 issues covered in this correspondence."

As per our previous correspondence with you on 28 March 2017, the National Screening Unit (NSU) continues to maintain a watching brief on overseas trends and developments in comparable overseas programmes to monitor and evaluate the implementation of Non-invasive prenatal screening (NIPS).

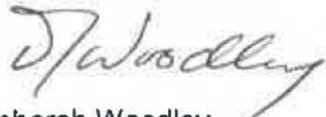
The NSU is working with New Zealand and international clinical experts to help inform the implementation of NIPS. Any updates on the implementation of NIPS in New Zealand will be discussed with all relevant parties including Saving Downs.

The below table outlines the updates you have requested.

Request	Update as at May 2019
1. Briefing/commissioning details for the cost effectiveness study (i.e. scope, objectives, expected outcomes of the study etc.)	No additional briefing or commissioning details for the cost effectiveness study have been undertaken since March 2017.
2. All NSU/MOH, Government Agency and Ministerial briefings around the development of policy around the use of Non-Invasive Prenatal Testing (NIPT).	No additional NSU/MOH, Government Agency and Ministerial briefings have been provided around the development of policy around the use of Non-Invasive Prenatal Testing (NIPT) since March 2017.
3. A statement as to the principles, objectives and reasoning for introducing a publically funded NIPT programme targeted towards Down syndrome (as a specifically named condition).	No decision has been made on the introduction of NIPT in New Zealand. This work is ongoing.
4. Details of all assessments for the policy work against disability rights law and obligations, both domestically and internationally.	No policy work or assessment of NIPT against disability rights law and obligations, both domestically and internationally has been undertaken.

I trust that this information fulfils your request. Under section 28(3) of the Act you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'D Woodley', with a stylized, cursive script.

Deborah Woodley
Deputy Director-General
Population Health and Prevention