

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your requests to the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). A copy of your requests are itemised in Appendix 1.

On 9 August 2019, you were advised that the due date for responding to your requests was extended, under section 15 of the Act, as further consultation and collation was required.

Attached to this letter are copies of documents that have been identified in scope of your request dated 12 July 2019. Please note that this part of your request has been interpreted for information relating to the Ministry's *'Maternity Action Plan'*, as per our refinement email of 7 August 2019.

Table 1. Documents for release

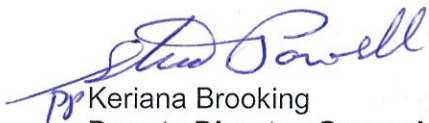
#	Date	Title	Decision on release
1	N/A	MYC Programme Relationships	Released in full
2	N/A	Project Brief – Midwife engagement (Draft version)	Released in full Please note that this document is a draft version only, and therefore will contain gaps in information including budget material and risks.
3	April 2019 – June 2019	Email correspondences between the New Zealand College of Midwives and the Ministry	Some information withheld under the following sections of the Act: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural person • Section 9(2)(b)(ii) – to protect information where the making

#	Date	Title	Decision on release
			available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information

In response to your request of 15 July 2019, the University of Auckland (contracted by the Ministry) is managing a review and update of the nutritional recommendations for pregnant and breastfeeding women. The updated advice is expected to be available in 2020. As this work is currently underway, information pertaining to this part of your request is withheld under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act. You may wish to submit another request under the Act once this advice has been considered.

I trust this information fulfils your request. Under section 28 of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made on this request.

Yours sincerely

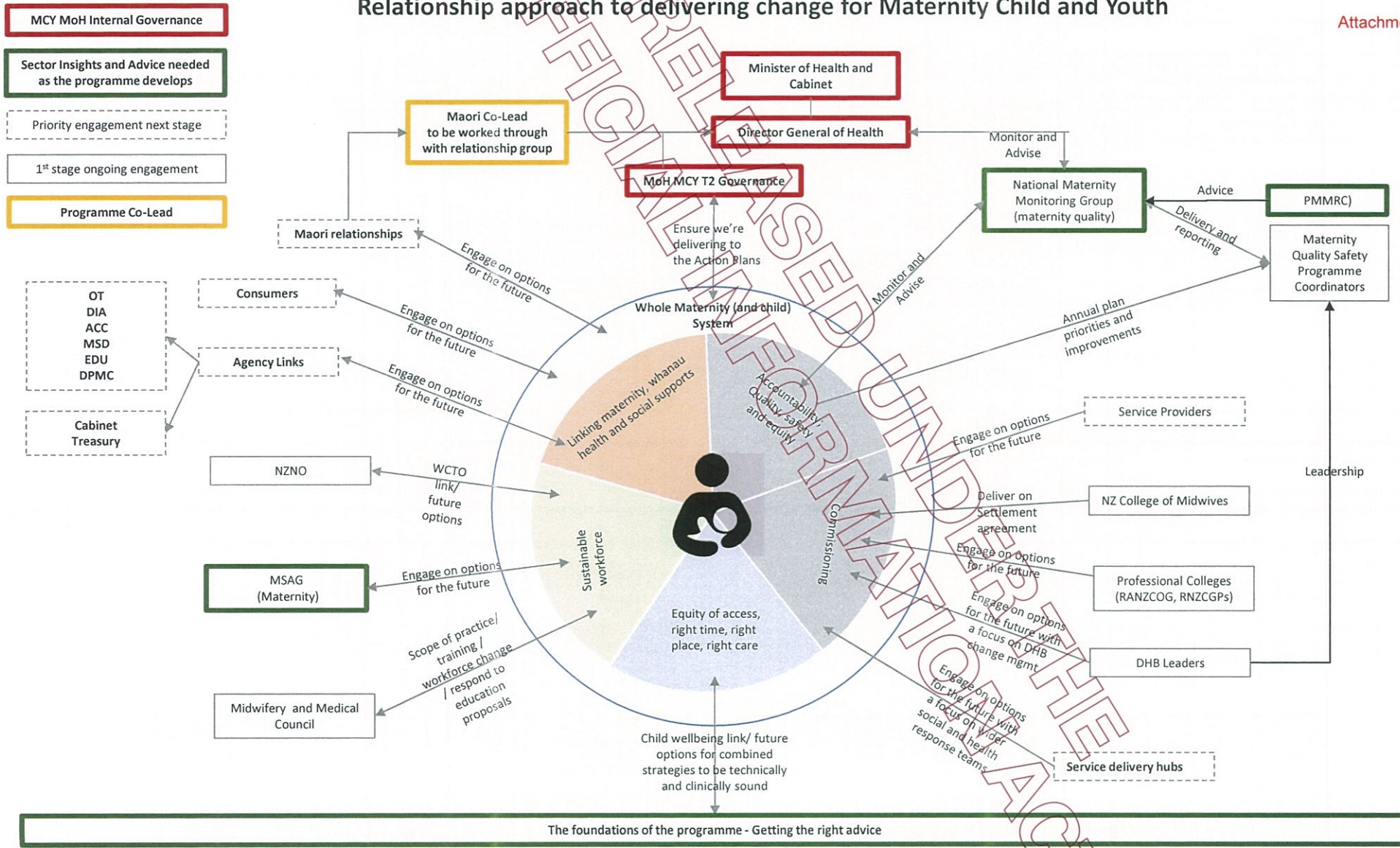


Keriana Brooking
Deputy Director-General
Health System Improvement and Innovation

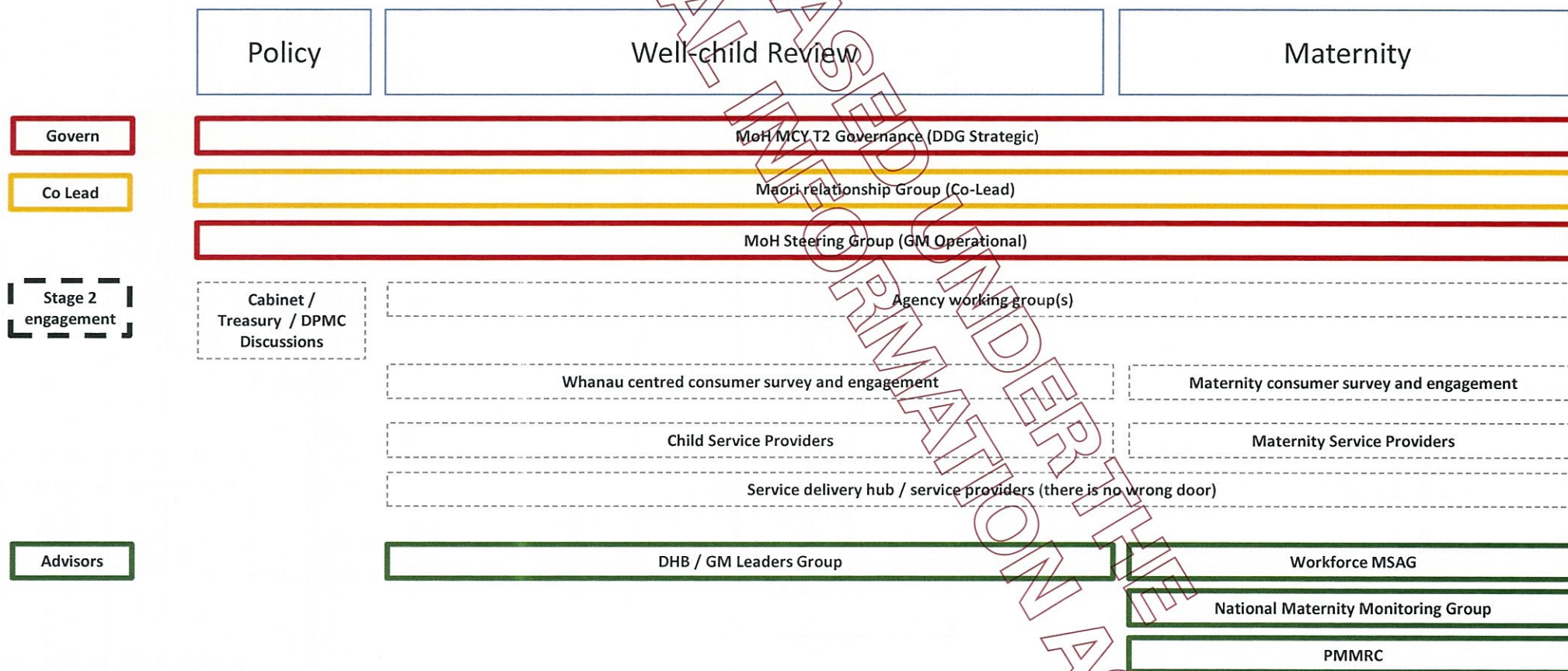
Appendix 1 – Copies of requests for official information

#	Date received by the Ministry	Requested information
1	12 July 2019	<p>1. Please release all financial modelling data or associated reports/briefings/analysis pertaining to the review, produced in the time period January 1, 2018 to July 12, 2019.</p> <p>2. Please release the ministry's consultation plan devised for the June and July consultation period.</p> <p>3. Please release any communication plans devised to guide or support the Primary Maternity Services Review, produced between February 1, 2019 and July 12, 2019.</p> <p>4. Please release all correspondence, emails or letters, between Dr Ashley Bloomfield, Director-general of health, and Health Minister David Clark's office that discuss or mention the Primary Maternity Services Review, between February 1, 2019 and July 12, 2019.</p> <p>5. Please release all correspondence, emails or letters, between Ashley Bloomfield, or any member of the MOH executive leadership team, and the College of Midwifery, between February 1, 2019 and July 12, 2019.</p> <p>6. Please release any reports produced between June 30, 2018 and July 12, 2019 that pertain to the general state of midwifery services in NZ, including financial viability of midwifery and clinical outcomes. Please exclude any report that is in the public domain already.</p>
2	15 July 2019	<p>Under the Official Information Act, please release any documents pertaining to the nutritional recommendations for pregnancy in respect of whole milk versus trim milk. These could include discussion documents, written reports, analysis, emails, or briefings, between July 1, 2017 and July 15, 2019.</p>

Relationship approach to delivering change for Maternity Child and Youth



Relationships and Engagement - Stage 2



Project title: Midwife Engagement

Project rationale:

In order to better understand the ideas, views, and the challenges of the maternity system, this project will engage with midwives to elicit their current realities and discuss their ideas about the future of New Zealand's maternity services.

Project scope and objectives:

Consult directly with midwives who provide community-based continuity midwifery (LMC) services.

Ensure midwives feel confident to share their views by setting a safe space, with open and frank discussion. All ideas and views will be respected, guarantee of confidentiality, respect and assurance of no repercussions.

How: Focus group discussion (FGD) with 6-8 midwives (invite 8-10 with an assumption 2-4 will be unable to attend on the day).

Follow-up short survey using Citizen Space.

Who (MOH): At least two representatives from the Ministry, including one midwife (Kass/Amanda).

Questions/prompts to guide FGDs:

Can you tell us about your motivation to become a midwife and why you stay in the profession? (Being a midwife)

Have you, or are you, considering leaving the midwifery profession? Why? (Workforce question)

Describe your key challenges to providing women with quality 24/7 midwifery care? (Working conditions focus)

What changes do you think should be introduced to improve maternity services in New Zealand? (Improving the system/future focus)

Thinking about your challenges, if you were in the planning seat - what do you think would be an ideal maternity system to support you as a midwife to provide women and babies with quality maternity care?

Think broadly! Think about possible changes to:

- Restrictions on case numbers, restrictions in hours, etc
- Supported 'maternity hubs' to provide rooms, administrative support, equipment, etc
- Midwifery travel support packages...
- Anything else?

Are you able to link us with women who may be willing to contribute to this project by sharing their experiences of maternity care?

Citizen Space post-FGD survey questions:

- Is there any other information you would like to share following today's focus group discussion?
- Please share any other 'hacks' you use to ensure you receive maximum payment from Section 88 for your work? Sharing this information will enable us to make these 'in the know' hacks more easily available.
- If you have time, please practice some 'Blue sky thinking' and tell us about anything else you would like to see added to the maternity system.

Overall project status:



Budget:

\$	Status

Risks:

	Status
Timeframes	
Budget	

Where:

Northland - Rural, Maori-specific practices

Counties Manukau - Diverse population, poverty, new migrants and Pacific communities

Auckland - super urban, high-level of obstetric-led care

Gisborne - Rural, Maori-specific practices, low socio economic

Dannevirke - Rural, varying levels of deprivation – significant amount of work, but small number of births

Wellington - Close to the office, no primary unit in Wellington Central

Hutt Valley – Close to office, impacts of new birthing unit in Hutt Valley

Wairarapa – Close to office, rural

West Coast - Remote rural, geographic difficulties, small population, good outcomes

Dunedin - Challenging area, small-urban, large geographic area

Project owner: Catherine Torrance

Project milestones and measures

Milestone description	Milestone date	Status	Process/output measures
Gathering questions/who do we visit	May 2019		Progressing
Identifying Midwives and confirming contact details			
Confirmation of questions			
Send invitations and confirmation of FGDs participants and details			
FGDs held in 10 identified settings			
Follow-up summarise findings, analysis, reporting. Reflect on learnings and process			

Next steps:

1. Liaise with Shar to confirm availability and suitability to facilitate FGDs
2. Kass availability times over the next month for FGDs
3. Collate midwives names [100 names] and contact details
4. Identify suitable locations, dates, times for FGDs
5. Approval for distribution of invitation to participate letter
6. Book conference rooms for FGDs – conference room in hotel? Plunket rooms? Rooms in community libraries? Airport conference rooms?
7. Budget constraints?
8. Email letters to midwives and respond to email enquiries.
9. Confirm midwives attendance – confirm venue bookings
10. Flights to Northland, Auckland, Gisborne, West Coast, Dunedin. Drive to sites in Wellington, Hutt Valley, Wairarapa, Dannevirke
11. Arrange travel – flights/rental care, accommodation
12. Approval for questions
13. Set up Citizen Space survey

Issues to consider: 1) midwives in small centres (ie Dannevirke, Wairarapa, Northland, West Coast) insufficient numbers to reach FGD minimum of 6 and no confidentiality during discussion with colleagues; 2) Not possible to guarantee attendance at FGD for midwives who work on-call; 3) Koha for midwives attendance?

Key relationships

Internal

MoH maternity team
 Child and Family Programmes team
 Clinical Advisors
 Office of the Chief Nurse
 WCTO team
 Pacific and Maori team

External

Service providers
 Service Users
 Maori relationship group
 Woman's Health Action

From: Keriana Brooking/MOH
To: Alison Eddy <ceo@nzcom.org.nz>,
Cc: MFYP Administrator <mfyp@nzcom.org.nz>
Date: 01-04-19 11:01 AM
Subject: Re: FW: MFYP Contract 2019

Kia ora Alison

I have had contact with Heath Workforce post your email and understand that they will be in contact shortly to work through with you your queries.

By reading your emails the thing that needs to get real clarity on is contract value against year of service.

I have asked the HW team to keep me updated, if you could as well that would be great.

My view is we need to go out of this week with a common understanding.

Thanks
Keriana Brooking
Deputy Director General
Health System Improvement and Innovation
Ministry of Health, 133 Molesworth Street
PO Box 5013, Wellington 6145, New Zealand
s 9(2)(a)
Email: keriana_brooking@moh.govt.nz

Kia ora, if this email reaches you out of hours, I don't expect a reply outside of your office hours, it's just a convenient time for me to send an email, nga mihi.

From: Alison Eddy <ceo@nzcom.org.nz>
To: "Keriana_Brooking@moh.govt.nz" <Keriana_Brooking@moh.govt.nz>,
Cc: MFYP Administrator <mfyp@nzcom.org.nz>
Date: 01/04/2019 10:29 a.m.
Subject: FW: MFYP Contract 2019

FYI Keriana

We have been awaiting a renewal of our contract from HWNZ to fund 2019 MFYP participants, who commenced on 1 February 2019. We have been funding the programme out of our own funds to date in lieu of receiving the contract from HWNZ.

In spite of seeking a contract renewal from 1 Feb 2019 before the end of last year, and having a number of discussions with HWNZ staff about the contract model we are now being offered a contract commencing 1 August, which is completely unacceptable and at odds with how the MFYP programme is provided and has how it has been funded to date.

We have had overlapping 18 month contracts, commencing 1 Feb every year until now. As it stands, we will be notifying the Council that we will need to cease providing the programme unless we can ensure we have funding secured from 1 February this year.

Alison

From: Alison Eddy
Sent: Monday, 1 April 2019 10:15 AM
To: 'Debbie_Anderson@moh.govt.nz'
Cc: MFYP Administrator; Danilo_Almeida@moh.govt.nz; Diane_Callinicos@moh.govt.nz;
Catherine_Torrance@moh.govt.nz
Subject: RE: MFYP Contract 2019

Hello Debbie

This is extremely concerning.

An MFYP contract from 1 August 2019 does not fund the participants that we currently have in the programme now (who commenced on 1 Feb 2019), nor will it fund the participants who are commencing the programme on 1 May 2019, nor does it fund the national co-ordination that the College has been providing for these participants.

I am really concerned that the College is funding the participants and our programme management out of its own funds at present, and unless we can get confirmation from HWNZ that there is an intention to fund the programme retrospectively from 1 February 2019, immediately we will need to cease providing the programme. I will be notifying the Midwifery Council of my concerns as this will impact on the 2019 graduates ability to remain in the workforce as participation in the programme is a compulsory regulatory requirement.

In spite of HWNZ reassurances that there was an understanding of the contract model and arrangements, it appears that it has not been well understood. We have always had overlapping contracts in the past to accommodate the staggered entry time of the graduates through three cohorts during the year, which reflect the Midwifery Council national exam dates, so I do not understand why we are only being offered a contract from 1 August. It does not reflect how we provide the programme nor how it has been funded previously.

We need to discuss this with you urgently.

Regards
Alison

From: Debbie_Anderson@moh.govt.nz [mailto:Debbie_Anderson@moh.govt.nz]
Sent: Monday, 1 April 2019 9:59 AM
To: Alison Eddy
Cc: MFYP Administrator; Danilo_Almeida@moh.govt.nz; Diane_Callinicos@moh.govt.nz;
Catherine_Torrance@moh.govt.nz
Subject: MFYP Contract 2019

Good Morning Alison and Kate

I am pleased to inform you the Funding Board has agreed to extend Agreement 359484 - Midwifery First Year of Practice Training Programme from 1 August 2019 to 31 January 2021 at a total cost of s 9(2)(b)(ii)

As this has now been agreed I can proceed with the varying the contract. I will forward this to you for signing once

complete.

If you have any queries, please feel free to contact me.

Kind Regards

Debbie Anderson
Vendor Relationship Manager
Procurement and Contract Administration
Health Workforce New Zealand
Health Workforce
Ministry of Health
DDI: 04 816 2067

<http://www.health.govt.nz>
mailto:Debbie_Anderson@moh.govt.nz

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----- Forwarded by Janice Tomlin/MOH on 21-08-19 11:07 AM -----

From: Keriana Brooking/MOH
To: Alison Eddy <ceo@nzcom.org.nz>,
Date: 14-04-19 03:50 PM
Subject: Re: Follow up from our phone conversation

Kia ora Alison

Thanks for this email - I have discussed this with Clare and Catherine and we will be moving through these actions as you and I agreed

Regards

Keriana Brooking
Deputy Director General
Health System Improvement and Innovation
Ministry of Health, 133 Molesworth Street

PO Box 5013, Wellington 6145, New Zealand

s 9(2)(a)

Email: keriana_brooking@moh.govt.nz

Kia ora, if this email reaches you out of hours, I don't expect a reply outside of your office hours, it's just a convenient time for me to send an email, nga mihi.

----- Forwarded by Janice Tomlin/MOH on 21-08-19 11:07 AM -----

From: Keriana Brooking/MOH
To: "Alison Eddy" <ceo@nzcom.org.nz>, Clare Perry/MOH@MOH,
Date: 07-05-19 07:55 PM
Subject: Fw: NZCOM meeting 8 May

Hi Alison

Thanks for this email, I have back to back meetings between 7.30am and 8pm tomorrow that at the moment makes life tricky.

I could come out of the Northland DHB Senior Leadership team meeting early (midday) but I could only stay for 30 minutes as my next meeting I have to attend, I have to be there right at the start.

Is that ok?

Keriana Brooking
Deputy Director General
Health System Improvement and Innovation
Ministry of Health, 138 Molesworth Street
PO Box 5013, Wellington 6145, New Zealand

s 9(2)(a)

Email: keriana_brooking@moh.govt.nz

Kia ora, if this email reaches you out of hours, I don't expect a reply outside of your office hours, it's just a convenient time for me to send an email, nga mihi.

From: Alison Eddy <ceo@nzcom.org.nz>
To: "Clare Perry@moh.govt.nz" <Clare_Perry@moh.govt.nz>,
Date: 07/05/2019 06:06 p.m.
Subject: FW: NZCOM meeting 8 May

Kia ora Clare,

We would appreciate some time to meet with Keriana tomorrow if that's possible?

Overall I remain concerned about how quickly (or not) the work is progressing and I had hoped that we would have some more tangible things to be working with by now.

See you tomorrow

Ngā mihi
Alison Eddy
Chief Executive



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From: Clare_Perry@moh.govt.nz [mailto:Clare_Perry@moh.govt.nz]
Sent: Tuesday, 7 May 2019 3:13 PM
To: Alison Eddy <ceo@nzcom.org.nz>
Cc: Keriana_Brooking@moh.govt.nz; Helen_Roulston@moh.govt.nz; Catherine_Torrance@moh.govt.nz
Subject: NZCOM meeting 8 May

Kia ora Alison

Thank you for the brief discussion just now. Please find the draft agenda attached. I can confirm after checking in with Keriana just now that we are not in a position yet to discuss the broad budget information under the Settlement terms, therefore we should make a time next week to do this. I acknowledge this will be a disappointment to the NZCOM team, however I will work between diaries to organise this discussion for the week commencing 13 May.

Ngā mihi

Clare Perry
Group Manager, Health System Improvement
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Ministry of Health, 133 Molesworth St, P O Box 5013, Wellington 6145, NZ
<http://www.moh.govt.nz>
[mailto: Clare_Perry@moh.govt.nz](mailto:Clare_Perry@moh.govt.nz)

----- Forwarded by Clare Perry/MOH on 07/05/2019 02:43 p.m. -----

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