

Briefing

Current work programme of the Public Health Agency

Date due to MO:	N/A	Action required by:	N/A
Security level:	IN CONFIDENCE	Health Report number:	H2023025438
To:	Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall, Minister of Health		
Copy to:	Hon Barbara Edmonds, Associate Minister of Health (Pacific Peoples) Hon Willow-Jean Prime, Associate Minister of Health		
Consulted:	Health New Zealand: <input type="checkbox"/> Māori Health Authority: <input type="checkbox"/>		

Contact for telephone discussion

Name	Position	Telephone
Jane Chambers	Acting Deputy Director-General, Public Health Agency	s 9(2)(a)
Ross Bell	Group Manager, Strategy and Engagement, Public Health Agency	

Minister's office to complete:

- | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Approved | <input type="checkbox"/> Decline | <input type="checkbox"/> Noted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Needs change | <input type="checkbox"/> Seen | <input type="checkbox"/> Overtaken by events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> See Minister's Notes | <input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn | |

Comment:

Current work programme of the Public Health Agency

Security level: IN CONFIDENCE **Date:** 22 May 2023

To: Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall, Minister of Health

Purpose of report

1. You have requested information on the current work programme of the Public Health Agency (PHA) - Te Pou Hauora Tūmatanui.
2. This briefing outlines the PHA's current work priorities and discloses all relevant information.

Summary

3. The PHA provides public health leadership across the health and disability sector and influences the wider determinants of population health to enable people, their whānau, and environments to be healthy and improve their wellbeing.
4. The key topics are:
 - a. strengthening New Zealand's pandemic preparedness
 - b. supporting healthy environments
 - c. building public health resilience
 - d. maintaining New Zealand's position in regional and global health
 - e. improving health outcomes for priority populations
 - f. other.
5. A summary of the PHA's work programme is provided in Appendix 1.

Recommendations

We recommend you:

- a) **Note** the information outlined within this briefing around the current work of the Public Health Agency. **Noted**



Jane Chambers

Acting Deputy Director-General of Health

Te Pou Hauora Tūmatanui

Date: 22 May 2023

Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall

Minister of Health

Date:

PROACTIVELY RELEASED

Out of scope

Nutrition and food environments

20. The PHA lead advice to strengthen collective action on healthy food environments. Policy advice and options have been provided to the Hon Barbara Edmonds in her capacity as the Associate Minister of Health, with two briefings regarding nutrition and food environments to be provided in June and July
21. A healthy food environments steering group has been established by the PHA, bringing together leaders from Manatū Hauora, Te Whatu Ora, Te Aka Whai Ora and Te Aho o Te Kahu. The steering group provides strategic leadership, collaboration and oversight of a shared healthy food environments work programme. This includes strengthening the use of levers and opportunities available within the health system, as well as strengthening the role of health in cross-government policy work.
22. The secretariat function for the Public Health Advisory Committee (PHAC) sits within the PHA. You have requested the committee to focus on the topic of food environments for their major work focus of 2023.

Out of scope

Appendix 1 – Summary of the PHAs current work programme

Strengthening NZ's pandemic preparedness	Supporting healthy environments	Building public health resilience	Maintaining NZ's position in regional & global health	Improving health outcomes for priority populations	Other
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 • Future of MIQ capability • Strategic approach to health at the border • International negotiations on pandemic instruments • International health regulations- minor amendments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change • Nutrition and food * • Drinking water † • Community water fluoridation † 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alcohol levy • National immunisation governance and strategy • Smokefree 2025 • Vaping • Public health knowledge & surveillance system • Communicable disease intelligence • AMR • Physical activity* • Emergency management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polynesian Health Corridors* • WHO governance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refugee and migrant health • Pacific health strategy * • STBBI strategy & HIV action plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burials & cremations *

Delegations

*Hon Barbara Edmonds, †Hon Willow-Jean Prime