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12 June 2023

s 9(2)(a)

Ref[.]

H2023025507

Tēnā koe s 9(2)

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to Manatū Hauora (the Ministry of Health) on 17 May 2023 for information regarding the Women's Health Strategy. Each part of your request is responded to below:

"Details of any planned consultation process for the Women's Health Strategy. To include advice of whether any consultation is planned? If so on what platforms?"

As of mid-April 2023 the Ministry's engagement programme for the Pae Ora strategies has held over 140 meetings. This has included fono and hui with the sector and communities, including a number of sector and community engagements targeted at key groups of women. Manatū Hauora has also achieved more than 51,000 online engagements through Instagram, Facebook and the Ministry's online discussion platform, resulting in close to 8,700 written comments. On top of this we have received around 700 written submissions on the Women's Health Strategy. More information on the Pae Ora Strategy consultation is publicly available on the Manatū Hauora website here: www.health.govt.nz/new-zealand-health-system/setting-direction-our-new-health-system/contributing-mahi.

Targeted public engagement on the Women's Health Strategy finished in March 2023, with the broader Pae Ora engagement programme finishing in April 2023. This has included engagements with sector groups, community groups that service key groups of women, and engagements directly with groups of women, including young and sole parents and women with lived experience of mental health conditions and substance related harm.

There is no further external consultation planned for the Women's Health Strategy at this stage.

Dates of the public release of the draft Women's Health Strategy.

The Women's Health Strategy is currently under active consideration by Ministers. The final strategy will be published in July 2023 once Ministerial decisions have been finalised.

A copy of the draft Women's Health Strategy as it currently stands

As noted above, the Women's Health Strategy is currently under active consideration by Ministers. Therefore, the draft strategy is withheld under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act to maintain the constitutional conventions that protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers and officials. I have considered the countervailing public interest in releasing information and consider that it does not outweigh the need to withhold at this time.

Under section 28(3) of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Manatū Hauora website at: www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests.

Nāku noa, nā

Simon Medcalf

Gheday

Acting Deputy Director-General Strategy Policy and Legislation | Te Pou Rautaki