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26 June 2023

s 9(2)

Ref: H2023025970

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 26 May 2023 for information regarding Functional Neurological Disorder.

The majority of the information you have requested is more closely connected with the functions of Te Whatu Ora – Health New Zealand. However, the Ministry is aware you have lodged the same request to Te Whatu Ora, as such, a formal transfer of the relevant parts of your request pursuant to section 14(b)(ii) of the Act is deemed unnecessary.

Manatū Hauora is providing a response to question 6 of your request:

*I am wanting ALL Official information around the Ministry of Health long term cross government disability policy work programme and what medical conditions have been currently included*

Since July 2022, a primary focus of the Manatū Hauora disability work programme has been the development of the Health of Disabled People Strategy. This is one of six health strategies required under the Pae Ora (Healthy Futures) Act 2022. The five other strategies are the New Zealand Health Strategy, Hauora Māori Strategy, Te Mana Ola - The Pacific Health Strategy, Women's Health Strategy and Rural Health Strategy. Together, these strategies provide a framework for achieving pae ora | healthy futures for all New Zealanders.

The Health of Disabled People Strategy is the first dedicated, health system-led strategy for disabled people in Aotearoa New Zealand. It sets the direction and long-term priorities to guide health entities to move towards achieving equity in disabled people's health and wellbeing outcomes over the next ten years. We expect the strategy to be published in a provisional form in July 2023. This is to allow for further targeted engagement with the disability community and further shaping of priorities.

Future programmes of work include developing a finalised Health of Disabled People Strategy and progressing work under the Disability Action Plan. This includes exploring a framework to protect the bodily integrity of disabled people from non-consensual, non-urgent, non-therapeutic interventions and procedures, particularly in relation to abortion and sterilisation services.

Manatū Hauora will continue to support the WAI 2575 disability claim and work across government on health of disabled people issues. The policy work programme does not currently focus on any specific medical conditions.

I trust this information fulfils your request.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request with us, including this decision, please feel free to contact the OIA Services Team on [oiagr@health.govt.nz](mailto:oiagr@health.govt.nz).

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](mailto: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](http://www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests).

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steve Barnes". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Steve Barnes  
**Group Manager, Family and Community Health Policy  
Strategy, Policy and Legislation | Te Pou Rautaki**