



# Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee

## Minute of Decision

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### Investment to Increase Access to Medicines

Portfolio                      Health

On 23 November 2022, the Cabinet Social Wellbeing Committee:

- 1        **noted** that an additional \$66 million increase in the level of the Combined Pharmaceutical Budget (CPB) for the 2023/24 financial year only would give Pharmac additional scope to invest in more new medicines;
- 2        **noted** that, by Pharmac’s assessment, the above investment would enable Pharmac to invest in a number of medicines **s 9(2)(b)(ii)**
- 3        **agreed** to increase the level of the Combined Pharmaceutical Budget by \$66 million for the 2023/24 financial year only, from the following funding sources:

	\$ millions
<b>s 9(2)(f)(iv)</b>	
<b>Total</b>	66.000

- 4        **s 9(2)(f)(iv)**

- 5 **approved** the following changes to appropriations to give effect to the decisions in paragraphs 3 and 4 above, with a corresponding impact on the operating balance and net core Crown debt:

	\$ millions – increase / (decrease)				
	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27 & outyears
Vote Health Minister of Health Non-Departmental Output Expense: National Purchasing of Pharmaceuticals	-	66.000	-	-	-
Vote Health Minister for COVID-19 Response Multi-Category Expenses and Capital Expenditure: National response to COVID-19 across the health sector MCA Non-Departmental Output Expense: COVID-19 Public Health Response	(41.563)	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Operating</b>	<b>(41.563)</b>	<b>66.000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

- 6 **agreed** that the changes to the appropriations for 2022/23 in paragraph 5 above be included in the 2022/23 Supplementary Estimates;

7 s 9(2)(f)(iv)

- 8 **noted** that ongoing funding requirements from 2024/25 will be considered through the Budget 2024 process.

Rachel Clarke  
Committee Secretary

**Present:**

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern  
Hon Grant Robertson  
Hon Kelvin Davis  
Hon Dr Megan Woods  
Hon Chris Hipkins  
Hon Carmel Sepuloni (Chair)  
Hon Andrew Little  
Hon Poto Williams  
Hon Willie Jackson  
Hon Jan Tinetti  
Hon Dr David Clark  
Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall  
Hon Priyanca Radhakrishnan  
Hon Meka Whaitiri

**Officials present from:**

Office of the Prime Minister  
Office of the Chair  
Officials Committee for SWC