

Security classification: In-Confidence

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Memorandum: National Bowel Screening Programme - Timeline

To: Hon Dr David Clark, Minister of Health

Purpose

You have requested a memorandum providing a timeline that includes a pictorial overview of the current National Bowel Screening Programme (NBSP) implementation timetable against previously approved Cabinet timetables (Attachment A).

Background

1. In 1998, the National Health Committee Working Party did not recommend implementing a National Bowel Screening Programme (NBSP) because: 1) there was modest potential benefit to the population; 2) colonoscopy demand could rise by 40 percent and symptomatic patients were already facing long wait times; 3) there was no colonoscopy quality control.
2. In 2005, a Colorectal Cancer Screening Advisory Committee was established to review developments in bowel screening programmes internationally. Again, part of its remit was to assess the feasibility of a NBSP being developed for New Zealand.
3. In 2006, the Colorectal Cancer Screening Advisory Committee recommended that a New Zealand pilot be established to provide a New Zealand comparator for the international evidence.
4. In May 2008, the then Minister of Health announced that the Government would fast track the introduction of a bowel screening programme, with a pilot beginning in 2009. To support this timeframe, a Bowel Cancer Taskforce was established.
5. A review of the bowel screening pilot timetable later in 2008 found that it was not feasible to implement a pilot in 2009, and work got underway to establish a pilot in 2011 in Waitemata DHB, which informed the establishment of the NBSP.

National implementation timetable

6. The initial implementation timetable was presented, in the NBSP Programme Business Case to Cabinet in August 2016 [SOC-16-MIN-0108 refers].
7. In March 2017, the Ministry provided Cabinet with a NBSP update, including a revised timetable. Although some of the individual project deadlines had been revised, the Ministry was still committed to complete the NBSP implementation in the 2019/20 financial year [SEC-17-MIN-0016]. The Ministry committed the then Minister of Health to present the IT Business Case to Cabinet in November 2017.
8. An update was provided to Cabinet in December 2017, including a revised timetable, in conjunction with the request to extend the capital contingency to December 2018 [CBC-17-SUB-0081]. This implementation timetable includes the revised completion date as the end of the 2020/21 financial year. Cabinet approved the revised timetable [CBC-17-MIN-0081].
9. The IT Business Case was excluded from the December 2017 Cabinet paper as the timeframe for the IT Business Case had been further extended due to an increase in the scope of work. In

Contacts:	Jill Lane, Director, Service Commissioning	s9(2)(a) to protect privacy
	Astrid Koornneef, Group Manager, National Screening Unit	

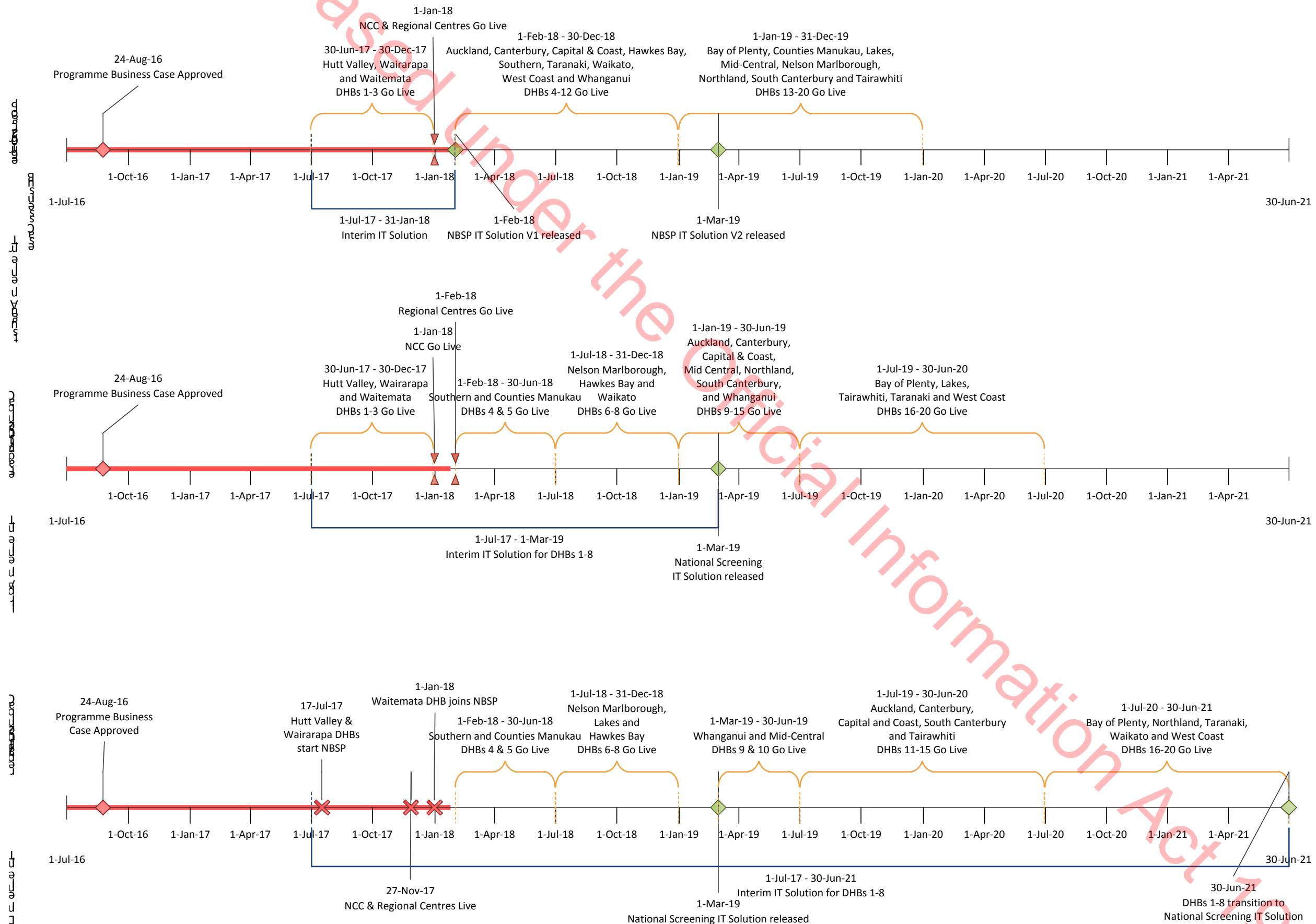
August 2016, it was envisioned that the IT solution would solely support the delivery of the NBSP. Over 2017, the IT Business Case has extended to support multiple screening programmes, including the National Cervical Screening Programme.

10. As a result of the revised timing to the IT Business Case, the roll out extension reflects the re-phasing of the number of district health boards providing the NBSP in each financial year from five in 2017/18, 10 in 2018/19 and five in 2019/20, to five in each of the financial years 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21.
11. Attachment A contains a summary of the three timelines for the implementation of the NBSP: Programme Business Case August 2016; Cabinet update March 2017; Cabinet update December 2017. This is also represented in tabular form at Attachment B.
12. Until the IT procurement is completed, the timetable will have an element of uncertainty as described in HR20171753.

END.

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Attachment A – NBSP Implementation Timeline Summary



Attachment B – NBSP Implementation Timeline Summary

Milestone	August 2016 Business Case	April 2017 Cabinet paper	Current state
FY2017/18			
Hutt Valley & Wairarapa DHBs implemented	July 2017	July 2017	July 2017
National Coordination Centre in place	January 2018	January 2018	November 2017
Regional Centres in place	January 2018	February 2018	November 2017
Waitemata DHB transitions from Pilot to NBSP	January 2018	January 2018	January 2018
Counties Manukau and Southern DHBs implemented	By June 2018	By June 2018	By June 2018
FY2018/19			
Nelson Marlborough, Lakes and Hawkes Bay DHBs implemented	By June 2018	By December 2018	By December 2018
National Screening IT Solution (NSS) implemented	February 2018	-	March 2019
DHBs 9 and 10 implemented	By December 2018	By June 2019	By June 2019
FY2019/20			
DHBs 11 to 14 implemented	By December 2018	By June 2019	By June 2020
FY2020/21			
DHBs 15 to 20 implemented	By December 2019	By June 2020	By June 2021
FY2021/22			
Migrate the DHBs using the interim IT solution to the NSS	-	By June 2018	TBC, likely after 30 June 2021