

Security classification: In-Confidence

Quill record number:
File number: AD62-14-2018
Action required by: 19 March 2018

Memorandum: National Bowel Screening Programme Update – meeting 19 March 2018

To: Hon Dr David Clark, Minister of Health

Purpose

This briefing provides you with information for a meeting with Jill Lane, Director Service Commissioning and Dr Jane O'Hallahan, Clinical Director, National Screening Unit, Ministry of Health (the Ministry) on Monday 19 March 2018, from 8.45am to 9.00am. The meeting will provide an update on the implementation of the National Bowel Screening Programme (NBSP).

Background

- Since 1 February 2018, the Ministry has provided you with the following briefings about the NBSP:

Reference	Title	Summary statement
20180264	Advice on potential independent expert reviewers and options for secretariat support for the assurance review for the National Bowel Screening Programme	Advice on the potential independent expert reviewers and options for secretariat support to undertake the independent assurance review for the NBSP
20180178	Independent Assurance Review for the National Bowel Screening Programme and further information on the "address override" issue	Proposed structure, approach and Terms of Reference for the independent assurance review for the NBSP

- The Ministry is managing fourteen Official Information Requests.

Communications and Media

- Interest in the NBSP remains high with a number of media requests received in February. The Ministry is following normal practice with these media enquiries.
- The Ministry is managing a complaint to the Ombudsman by Ms McLean, a freelance journalist, relating to the redactions in the Cabinet paper to extend the bowel screening capital contingency to 30 December 2018.
- The Listener magazine published on 10 March 2018 featured bowel cancer and the need for screening as its lead article.
- The Ministry has released a statement to Radio New Zealand as a result of the material provided by Waitemata DHB to RNZ under the Official Information Act, relating to the issue with the 2,500 people not invited to participate in screening due to an address issue.
- A draft of the independent Root Cause Analysis report on the address issue is expected next week with the final report due in early April. The Ministry intends to make this report public, given the on-going interest, and will work with your office to progress its release.

Contacts:	Jill Lane, Director Service Commissioning
	Astrid Koornneef, Group Manager, National Screening Unit

s9(2)(a)

Activity

Address Override Issue

8. In February 2018 the Ministry advised you about an address override procedure used in the pilot which had unintended adverse consequences for participants (HR20180178 refers).
9. The Ministry has completed its analysis of the impact on participants. This analysis concludes that of the 15,685 records in BSP (the pilot IT system) with a locked address:
 - a. 11,014 people are not currently affected due to either their BSP address still being valid or not due for rescreening.
 - b. 4,671 people have an updated address in the National Health Index (NHI), of these:
 - i. 4,338 are not affected as they are no longer eligible for bowel screening or have been rescreened.
 - ii. 333 people are overdue for screening.
 - c. None of the participants overdue for screening have been diagnosed with bowel cancer.
10. The 333 participants with an updated NHI address and overdue for screening are deemed adversely impacted.
11. The final numbers, after detailed analysis, are much smaller than originally envisaged. The principle reason for this change is the complexity of the logic to achieve the final numbers.
 - a. Address change dates were compared across two databases (BSP and NHI) and then compared with the date the participant was due to be rescreened.
 - b. In addition the addresses in BSP and the NHI was manually checked, for the people overdue for screening, to confirm the address change was material.
12. The Ministry will work with the National Coordination Centre to send letters of apology to the 333 participants overdue for screening and invite them to rescreen. As previously advised this process will be completed by the end of March 2018.
13. A communications plan will be developed in conjunction with Waitemata DHB. This will be shared with your office.
14. The original Health Report (20180178) is included in the material to be released, on 4 April 2018, as part of the Official Information Act requests HR201800479 and HR201800569 by Coleman and Kirk, respectively.

Southern DHB Commencing Bowel Screening

15. Southern DHB continues to be on track to commence bowel screening in April 2018.
16. The Ministry completed its site visit to Dunedin Hospital on 12 March 2018 as part of the readiness assessment and will undertake the same assessment at Invercargill on 20 March. Once these site visits have been completed and subject to no issues being identified the go live date can be agreed with Southern DHB.

Counties Manukau DHB Commencing Bowel Screening

17. The Ministry continues to engage with Counties Manukau DHB as it prepares to commence bowel screening in June 2018.
18. Planning for assessment of their readiness to go live is well underway. Part of this is ensuring the quality standards are able to be met and we are working together to ensure any issues are resolved.

Preparation activity with Nelson Marlborough, Lakes and Hawkes Bay DHBs

19. The Ministry has undertaken the initial clinical meetings with Nelson Marlborough, Lakes and Hawkes Bay DHBs. These are a face-to-face opportunity for the Ministry to:
 - a. discuss the programme with clinicians from across the sector in these regions and answer their questions.
 - b. support the programme management team with their implementation planning.
20. The Ministry engages regularly with these DHBs through a number of mechanisms including as members of each DHB's Bowel Screening Steering Group.

Information Technology (IT) Procurement

21. The NSS Evaluation Outcome paper is currently progressing through the approval process.
22. Due diligence has been completed and a preferred vendor identified. The procurement outcome remains highly confidential until contracts are signed with the preferred vendor and the unsuccessful have been notified.
23. The next phase of the process (detailed design) remains on track to commence in April 2018.

END.