**Information about public consultation meetings on ‘A Strategy to Prevent Suicide in New Zealand: Draft for public consultation’**

*This document provides you with some information about the public consultation meetings on the draft suicide prevention strategy.*

 **When and where are the public consultation meetings?**

Information about locations, dates and times for the public consultation meetings can be found at [www.health.govt.nz/publication/strategy-prevent-suicide-new-zealand-draft-public-consultation](http://www.health.govt.nz/publication/strategy-prevent-suicide-new-zealand-draft-public-consultation).

If you’d like to attend a public consultation meeting, please click on the link above and follow the prompts to register for a meeting.

 **What can I expect from a public consultation meeting?**

The public consultation meetings will involve:

* an overview of the draft framework for suicide prevention, as outlined in ‘A Strategy to Prevent Suicide in New Zealand: Draft for public consultation’
* small group discussions about the draft framework for suicide prevention
* small group discussions about areas for action and what activities should be done first
* an opportunity to provide any other views, thoughts or comments relating to suicide prevention.

 **What do I need to do to prepare for coming to a public consultation meeting?**

There isn’t anything specific you need to do to prepare for attending a public consultation meeting. If you would like to do some preparation, we’d suggest having a look through ‘A Strategy to Prevent Suicide in New Zealand: Draft for public consultation’. You might also like to have a look at some of the documents included in the information release.

 **What’s different about the draft strategy?**

The draft strategy builds on the previous strategy. It does so in two main ways: through a stronger focus on everyone in society being involved in preventing suicide and through a stronger focus on government agencies working together to prevent suicide.

**What does the draft strategy cover?**The draft strategy sets out a framework for preventing suicidal behaviour (including suicide) in New Zealand. It also identifies broad areas to focus on and examples of possible activities that could be done in those areas.

 **Who is the draft strategy for?**

The draft strategy is intended to be for everyone (not just for health professionals or government agencies). In particular, it is intended to be for anyone who wants to contribute to preventing suicide in New Zealand.

 **What if I cannot attend a public consultation meeting?**

We still want to hear from you. You can provide us with written feedback using the submission form at [www.health.govt.nz/publication/strategy-prevent-suicide-new-zealand-draft-public-consultation](http://www.health.govt.nz/publication/strategy-prevent-suicide-new-zealand-draft-public-consultation) or you can make a written submission in your preferred format.

Written submissions can be emailed to suicideprevention@moh.govt.nz or posted to:
Suicide Prevention Strategy Consultation
Ministry of Health
PO Box 5013
Wellington 6140.

You can also arrange your own meeting with a group of other people. Information to support you to run your own meeting can be found at [www.health.govt.nz/publication/strategy-prevent-suicide-new-zealand-draft-public-consultation](http://www.health.govt.nz/publication/strategy-prevent-suicide-new-zealand-draft-public-consultation).

Submissions received on or before 12 June 2017 (when the public consultation period finishes) will be considered.

 **What happens after the consultation period finishes?**

After the consultation period ends on 12 June 2017, government agencies will look at the feedback received and provide recommendations to Ministers on changes to the draft strategy.

A near final version of the Strategy will likely be considered by Cabinet in late 2017. When the Strategy will be released will depend on the decision Cabinet makes.