
NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND DISABILITY
Hunga Kaititiro i te Hauora o te Tangata

**Minutes of the 165th meeting held by teleconference
on Wednesday 19 April 2006 from 11am-1pm**

Present: Linda Holloway (Chair)
Andrew Moore
Neil Pearce
Phil Shoemack
Api Talemaitoga
Lynette Stewart
Riripeti Haretuku (12noon-1pm)

In Attendance: Margaret Earle, Manager
Sara Georgeson, Analyst
Kathryn Haliburton, Analyst
Victoria Jackson, Analyst
Barbara Langford, Senior Advisor (Public Health)
Jan Mackay, Senior Analyst
Liza Wilcox, Senior Analyst

Agenda Item 1: Conflicts of interest

None identified

Agenda Item 2: Apologies

Gwen Tepania-Palmer, Maaka Tibble, Geoff Fougere

Agenda Item 3: Minutes of March 2006 meeting

The minutes were accepted as a true record.

The actions from the March minutes were reviewed.

Action:

- Neil Pearce to provide the secretariat with the contact details of the Wairarapa runanga involved in the Māori asthma project.

Agenda Item 4: Correspondence

The committee noted the following outward correspondence:

- letter of thanks from Robert Logan for his official farewell from the committee
- letter from Murray Dear, National President of Diabetes New Zealand in regard to the meeting held with Don Beaven on 1 March 2006
- response from Wairarapa DHB about the proposed NHC visit to the region in June 2006.

Action:

- Secretariat to draft response to Diabetes New Zealand.

Agenda Item 5: Visit to Wairarapa in June 2006

The Manager outlined the draft programme that had been proposed by Wairarapa DHB. NHC members commented that they would prefer to have fewer topics and discuss these in more depth. There was agreement that there be a specific focus on rural health during meetings with DHB staff on Monday 19 June. It was also suggested that concurrent visits could be organised on the Tuesday.

Action:

- Secretariat to work with Wairarapa DHB to refine the programme.

Agenda Item 6: Conferences

This item was not discussed.

Agenda Item 7: Financial update

The Manager spoke to the financial statement for March 2006 and identified areas where expenditure is forecast to be different from budgeted figures.

Agenda Item 8: Discussion on work programme for 2006/07

Committee members provided comment on the paper detailing some options for next financial year's work programme.

It was agreed:

- to use a set of questions for reviewing possible new work programme items, based on the list of questions proposed in the paper
- to include in the list consideration of how a proposed item fits with the three roles that the Minister has identified for the NHC and PHAC
- not to undertake, at this time, a project evaluating progress with the Primary Healthcare Strategy.

Action:

- secretariat to prepare a brief paper for the May NHC applying the set of questions to the topics of Māori access to services, migrant health, prisoners' health and men's health.

Agenda Item 9: Work Programme

Agenda Item 10.1: Chronic conditions

The lead sponsor outlined the changes that had been made to the report and the areas that still needed development. Members provided feedback on specific questions about the current draft and proposed changes. The following comments were made:

- the initial sections are much more clearly written
- a sharper focus on what is a society-wide response is needed at the beginning of the document
- support for inclusion of a *brief* reference to smoking cessation (section 2)
- getting the balance between acknowledging the wider issues (such as societal factors promoting the increased prevalence of chronic conditions) and the focus of this particular project and report is important
- support for a table in an appendix summarising the relevant health sector strategies
- general support for a focus on principles rather than specific recommendations.

Actions:

- secretariat to e-mail committee members seeking comment on the proposed outline of sections 4 and 5.

Agenda Item 10.2: Rural communities and health

Members provided feedback on the questions raised in the report on the rural health project. They discussed what definition of rural health to use and the details of the work to be contracted out. It was suggested that the project could have a strong focus on access, particularly access for Māori.

It was agreed:

- at this stage, to use the Statistics New Zealand definition of rural health as the working definition for the project.
- to develop a request for proposal for a literature review which includes:
 - identification of key factors influencing health in rural communities
 - identification of how health inequalities are described and evaluated in the New Zealand literature on rural health
 - analysis of the impact of rurality on delivery of health services (which includes some international literature).
- to mention workforce issues where appropriate, but not to specifically focus on them
- at this stage, not to include a public health focus in the project.

Agenda Item 10.3: Carers

The committee considered draft project brief and discussed the question of how to further refine the focus of the project.

It was agreed that:

- the secretariat begin meeting with key stakeholders and use these meetings as an opportunity to identify where the NHC's project could add the most value.
- requests for proposal be developed for a literature and research review and for a discussion paper on the impact that social, demographic and family trends have had on the caregiving role

Next meeting

The next NHC meeting will be held in Wellington on Tuesday, 16 May beginning at 8.30am. The Minister will be meeting with the committee at 9.15am.

The teleconference finished closed at 1pm.

Confirmed as a true and accurate record

.....Chair

.....Date